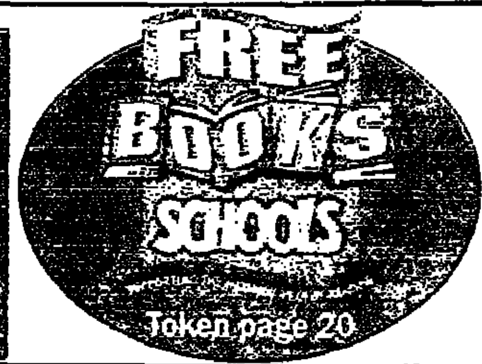
THE TIMES

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30p





Save £1000 on a fabulous holiday

FANTASY LEAGUE: how did your team score?

'I was misconstrued' says England soccer coach as support continues to ebb away

FA to decide Hoddle's fate today

By Michael Harvey and Alex O'Connell

ENN HODDLE faces dis-sal as England's football :h today, in spite of launch- a desperate counter-offen- yesterday over his re- -ks about the disabled.

loddle will meet senior tball Association officials : morning and an an- ncement about his future xpected around lunchtime. But support for Hoddle was oing away yesterday, and n the Prime Minister add- his voice to those saying at he should go. Tony Blair id in a interview on ITV's is Morning programme at it would be very difficult r him to stay, adding: "If he id what he is reported to ive said in the way he is re- orted to have said it then I ink that was very wrong".

The Nationwide, which gned a £8 million deal to ponsor the England team, lso pressed for the matter to e resolved. Mike Lazenby, ie society's marketing direc- or, said: "Glenn Hoddle has o understand that as a person- lity he can't escape the fact hat he has a responsibility to nsure that his personal views houldn't be confused with hose of the England team, the FA or its sponsors."

Hoddle had earlier tried to salvage his job with a series of interviews with selected news organisations in which apologised for the hurt the row had caused, while repeatedly saying that his remarks had been "misconstrued". He rejected the headline that appeared in *The Times* on Saturday — "Hoddle says disabled are paying price of sin" — but did not dispute the key passage of the interview when he said: "You and I have been physically given two hands and two legs and half-decent brains. Some people have not been born like that for a reason. The karma is working from another lifetime."

Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, said that he was completely satisfied Hoddle had been quoted correctly and in context. He said: "*The Times* stands by its interview with Glenn Hoddle published in our Saturday edition. The remarks made by Glenn Hoddle to our reporter, Matt Dickinson, are clearly recorded in his notebook and they reflect comments made by Glenn Hoddle in other circumstances. I am amazed and appalled at Mr Hoddle's attempts at denial."



"Are you feeling ill? It's thirty seconds since you mentioned Hoddle"

Last night Hoddle's agent, Dennis Roach, said the England coach was considering issuing a writ against *The Times* and would be meeting lawyers today. Mr Roach said that Hoddle was blaming himself for "dropping his guard", but insisted: "What was stated in *The Times* was rubbish. He in no way mentioned the word punishment or disabled people being punished."

In one of his interviews yesterday, Hoddle told ITN: "I'm not going to resign over this because at the end of the day I didn't say any of those things. I want to put that on record because it has hurt people. That is that is the last thing I want to do." And he told Sky News: "I am sorry for any distress it may have caused and I have learnt that something so innocent can turn into something so big."

He also said that he had received messages of support from some England players and added: "It might even pull us together even stronger." Asked if he would still be coach for England's friendly match against France next week, Hoddle replied: "I certainly hope so."

However, that will depend on what the FA decides today. Geoff Thompson, the acting chairman, saw Hoddle yesterday and promised that there would be no whitewash. "It is a serious matter," he said. "We will take into consideration the public opinion about Glenn. I want to know what happened and why."

David Davies, the acting chief executive, said later: "Glenn Hoddle has given his version of events in a couple of TV interviews and those matters are being considered. Glenn will take the chance to say those things tomorrow."

But many people — not only the disabled — were unimpressed with Hoddle's statements. His name was jeered by at a conference discussing discrimination against the disabled in Sweden and 68 per cent of the 13,000 people who took part in a telephone poll run by thought that he should step down.

☐ Matt Dickinson writes: Glenn Hoddle has changed his story so many times that I have lost track. Instead of issuing a proper denial, he is in denial. The only certainty is that he has yet to refute a single quote that appeared in my original interview. He has disputed the meaning of a headline and nothing more. How could he do anything else when he said every bit of it?

He claims he has been misrepresented and, in the same breath, admits every word by saying it was off-the-record and that he made a mistake by letting down his guard.

This is not the first time he has spoken out without thinking and tried to blame it on the messenger. The truth is that I was giving Hoddle the chance to distance himself from previous allegations that he thought the disabled were being punished for sins in a former life. Instead, he not only confirmed that view but expanded it.

Matthew Parris, page 2
Selective memory, page 6
Michael Gove, page 16
Leading article, page 17
FA weighs options, page 48



Hoddle leaves his Finchampstead home, near Wokingham, yesterday. Photo: Austin Hargrave

Interview with Matt Dickinson – January 30

“You and I have been physically given two hands and two legs and half-decent brains. Some people have not been born like that for a reason. The karma is working from another lifetime. I have nothing to hide about that. It is not only people with disabilities. What you sow, you have to reap.”

Interview on BBC Radio Five – May 17 1998

“I have got an inner belief and an inner faith with God. I do believe spiritually we have to progress because we've been here before. The physical body is just an overcoat for your spirit. At death you take the overcoat off and your spirit will go on to another life in a spirit dimension. I think we make mistakes when we are down here and our spirit has to come back and learn. That's why there is an injustice in the world. Why there's certain people born into the world with terrible physical problems and why there's a family who has got everything right, physically and mentally.”

What Hoddle said yesterday

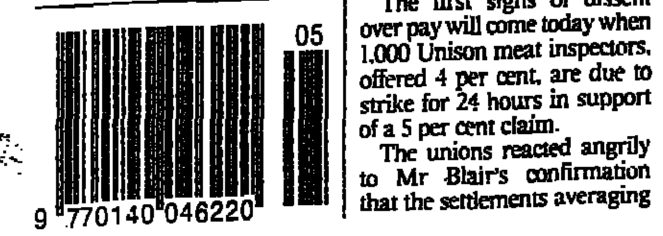
Interview with ITN – February 1

“The only reason people are saying I should resign is that they are saying I have come out and said that people disabled and handicapped have been paying for their sins and I have never ever said that. I don't believe that. At this moment in time, if that changes in years to come I don't know, but what happens here today and changes as we go along that is part of life's learning and part of your inner beliefs. But at this moment in time I did not say them things and at the end of the day I want to put that on record because it has hurt people.”

Noye protests his innocence

Kenneth Noye protested his innocence of the "road rage" murder of Stephen Cameron and claimed in a Madrid court that the police had identified him illegally.......Page 7

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Public pay awards to outstrip inflation

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister last night announced inflation-busting pay awards of more than 4 per cent for 1.3 million public sector workers and 12 per cent for junior nurses.

In a clear sign that the Chancellor has relaxed his tight grip on public sector pay, the Government agreed to honour in full the recommendations of the pay review body for nurses, doctors, the Armed Forces, teachers and top civil servants.

Tony Blair also announced that all the awards would be paid from April 1 apart from increases to primary and secondary school heads, which would be introduced in two stages.

Mr Blair said the settlements were "fair and affordable" and consistent with improving public services. But his decision to go ahead with the awards with almost no reservations will give the impression to others in the public and the private sectors that above-inflation awards are now acceptable.

The first signs of dissent over pay will come today when 1,000 Unison meat inspectors, offered 4 per cent, are due to strike for 24 hours in support of a 5 per cent claim.

The unions reacted angrily to Mr Blair's confirmation that the settlements averaging 4.1 per cent and costing £1.5 billion would be met entirely from within existing budgets.

Teaching unions threatened industrial action over their "low" awards while health service unions gave warning that the money would have to come from front-line services.

Nurses will get an average pay rise of 5.4 per cent, with junior nurses seeing their pay jump to £14,400 — a 12 per cent rise — in an attempt to solve the recruitment crisis in the NHS.

Ward nurses will receive an 8.2 per cent rise but nursing unions complained that the 4.7 per cent increase for other nursing staff was not high enough to solve recruitment problems, which were the subject of a £5 million recruitment campaign launched by the Government last night.

Doctors' organisations were also angry that they received average rises of only 3.5 per cent with hospital consultants getting 4.3 per cent.

Most teachers will get 3.5 per cent rises but the review bodies have decided to award a 9.5 per cent increase to primary school heads and 5.5 per cent to secondary school heads.

In contrast, pay rises for the Armed Forces are higher for the lower ranks at 3.8 per cent and lower for captains at 3.7 per cent. Pay rises for top civil servants will range from 2.8 per cent, with those performing badly receiving no increase and high-fliers getting up to 10.5 per cent.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said that the nurses' rise was the biggest in real terms for 10 years while David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, said they were in line with the Government's prudent approach to spending.

Rodney Bickerstaffe, the general secretary of Unison, the public service union, said that his delight over big awards for junior nurses was "tinged with disappointment that the pay review bodies had failed to reward nursing assistants".

However, Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that the Government "seems determined to push teachers towards industrial action" with the latest pay awards.

John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, added: "Despite these awards, it's still hard to discern a coherent and long-term strategy for public sector pay."

Teacher targets, page 8
Libby Purves, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Tighter cloning control on way

By Philip Webster and Peter Riddell

THE Government is preparing radical measures to rebuild the confidence of the public in Britain's scientists after the BSE crisis.

Tighter controls and the reorganisation of the mass of regulatory bodies are expected to be proposed after a cross-Whitehall study. A Cabinet committee headed by Jack Cunningham, the Cabinet "enforcer", is preparing recommendations. Known as Misc 6, the committee is looking at biotechnology and "in particular, issues arising from genetic modification".

The moves are disclosed today by Stephen Byers, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, in an interview with *The Times*. They come after clear signs of serious public concern, particularly among younger working-class women, about cloning, genetically modified food — "Frankenstein food" — and other scientific developments.

Mr Byers, the minister responsible for science, said that the Government faced a huge challenge in restoring confidence in what science and the scientists were doing. Some of the areas they were involved in "are debates about the very nature of life itself".

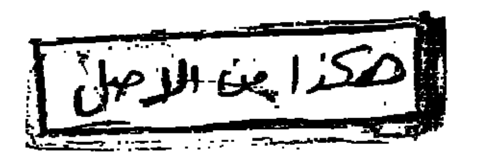
He said that although science was important in keeping Britain at the leading edge of technology, it had to be done in a way "that takes the public with the scientists". He said that there had to be far more openness about what the scientists were up to. "We do know that scientists can do things that are unacceptable. There has to be a degree of regulation," Mr Byers said.

He made clear that the Government's main concerns were genetically modified food, cloning and biotechnology — the use of genetic engineering to produce drugs and crops. "We know from what happened with BSE that scientists and the politicians have to be far more open about what they are doing and why they are doing it. The public does not trust us because of BSE. They say that the Government had all the information and it was covered up and that ministers were not honest about what the impact was."

Mr Byers said he would publish the findings of internal polling and a forthcoming poll by MORI for the regular "People's Panel" survey of public attitudes to government.

He added that regulation should not be introduced in a way that prevented beneficial advances.

Blair's vision, page 9



If Hoddle is right, Margaret Hodge should be a warthog



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Listening yesterday to Dennis MacShane (Lab, Rotherham) mithering on about his town's wonderful rugby union team at Culture, Media & Sport Questions, I wrestled with the problem of reincarnation. What had MacShane done in a previous life to deserve this indignity? Wrong question! What have we done, to be punished by having to listen to him?

Who would raise the Hoddle Question — and how would Tony Banks answer it? The Sports Minister went straight over the wire within minutes, when Ivor Caplin (Lab, Hove), said he thought Glenn Hoddle's views on reincarnation "outrageous". So, from the "hear-hear" which greeted him, did most MPs.

"One damn thing after another," spluttered Banks. "There have been times I wondered what dreadful things I had done in a previous life — to end up as Sports Minister. I must have been Vlad the Impaler. And I feel all my impaling instincts coming back to me now."

Impaled, Hoddle was despatched from the House's consideration. Until MPs started attacking him, your sketchwriter had felt about Hoddle rather as Banks seemed to. But hold on. Consider for a moment the insulting views to which some of our own politicians' differing faiths lead them.

Has anyone read the First Commandment? Exodus amplifies: God is a jealous God, "visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation".

For Roman Catholic MPs the Communion wafer and wine are literally converted into the body and blood of Christ. Strange — if inoffensive: but the belief that people who use contraception, women who have abortions, couples who divorce, and all practising homosexuals, may burn in Hell for their sins, is arguably quite insulting to a fairly large number of citizens.

At least Hoddle was not imputing wickedness to any living person, or proposing to hurt them. Ann Widdecombe has said she could not countenance abortion clinics, were she given the Health post she shadows.

Some Ulster Protestants believe the Pope is an agent of the Devil. To Scottish Calvinists we are all predestined and the Elect have already been chosen by God. Anglicans believe the British Queen rules by Divine Authority. Many Jews subscribe to the harshest of views about certain minorities — upon Divine Authority. All practising Jews should believe that they alone are God's chosen race.

And to Muslims (whose votes hundreds of MPs assiduously seek), Islam assigns to the whole of womankind a status millions of British women would consider profoundly insulting.

Examine the faiths of MPs and you may conclude that Mr Hoddle's sin is not to hold wacky views of an offensive nature — but to hold them alone, unaccompanied by any significant bloc of British voters or their representatives.

Margaret Hodge, the government minister who has called for Hoddle to be sacked, is lucky to have escaped, for she was very, very wicked in a previous life. As leader of a lunatic left-wing council, Islington, she oversaw the wreckage of the education of a whole generation of the borough's schoolchildren, flew the Red Flag from the town hall — and left the council unreformed, neglectful (to say the least) of its children's homes, heedless of its responsibilities to residents and close to bankruptcy.

Now she has been reincarnated. In her new life she is new Labour, and Minister for the Disabled. Very cushy. If there were even a grain of truth in Mr Hoddle's philosophy, Mrs Hodge would be a warthog.

Tarnished talent, page 6
Michael Gove, page 16
Sport, page 48

Prescott under fire for £3,000 helicopter trip

By Dominic Kennedy

JOHN PRESCOTT was accused of living like a king yesterday after admitting that he chartered a private helicopter to Nottingham instead of taking a train for £60. The estimated cost is up to £3,000.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who has two Jaguars, flew back to the Commons in time to hear Gordon Brown announce to MPs a £2 billion package to find alternatives to the private car.

Mr Prescott is already under attack for spending about £30,000 flying at public expense for commitments including switching on the Blackpool Illuminations and presenting a rugby cup at Wembley.

The disclosure threatens to reignite the row over ministerial spending after it was disclosed that Jack Cunningham used private chartered flights seven times around Europe. He is also alleged to have unnecessarily used Concorde.

Mr Prescott flew by helicopter to Nottingham on July 14 last year to open the Capital One Bank's European headquarters. He returned to the Commons to listen to Gordon Brown's spending review — which acknowledged how difficult it has become to get anywhere in Britain by land.

The Chancellor told MPs: "Anyone who travels on our roads and railways knows that after years of neglect and under-investment Britain suffers from an overcrowded, under-financed, under-planned and under-maintained transport system."



Prescott: has often urged public to use cars less

Mr Prescott, who has a Jaguar XJS for official duties and another at home, has repeatedly preferred his car to public transport. He once caught the train from Scarborough after opening a party office, then jumped into one of his Jaguars three miles down the track. Yet he has exhorted Britons to cut back on car use. He made a much-publicised attack on the school run, which causes a fifth of rush-hour journeys.

Mr Prescott has travelled by RAF or private aircraft 14 times since Labour won the general election in May 1997.

Two days after becoming Deputy Prime Minister, he travelled by helicopter from Wembley, where he watched the Rugby League Challenge Cup Final and presented the trophy, to Kensington Palace to see the Queen.

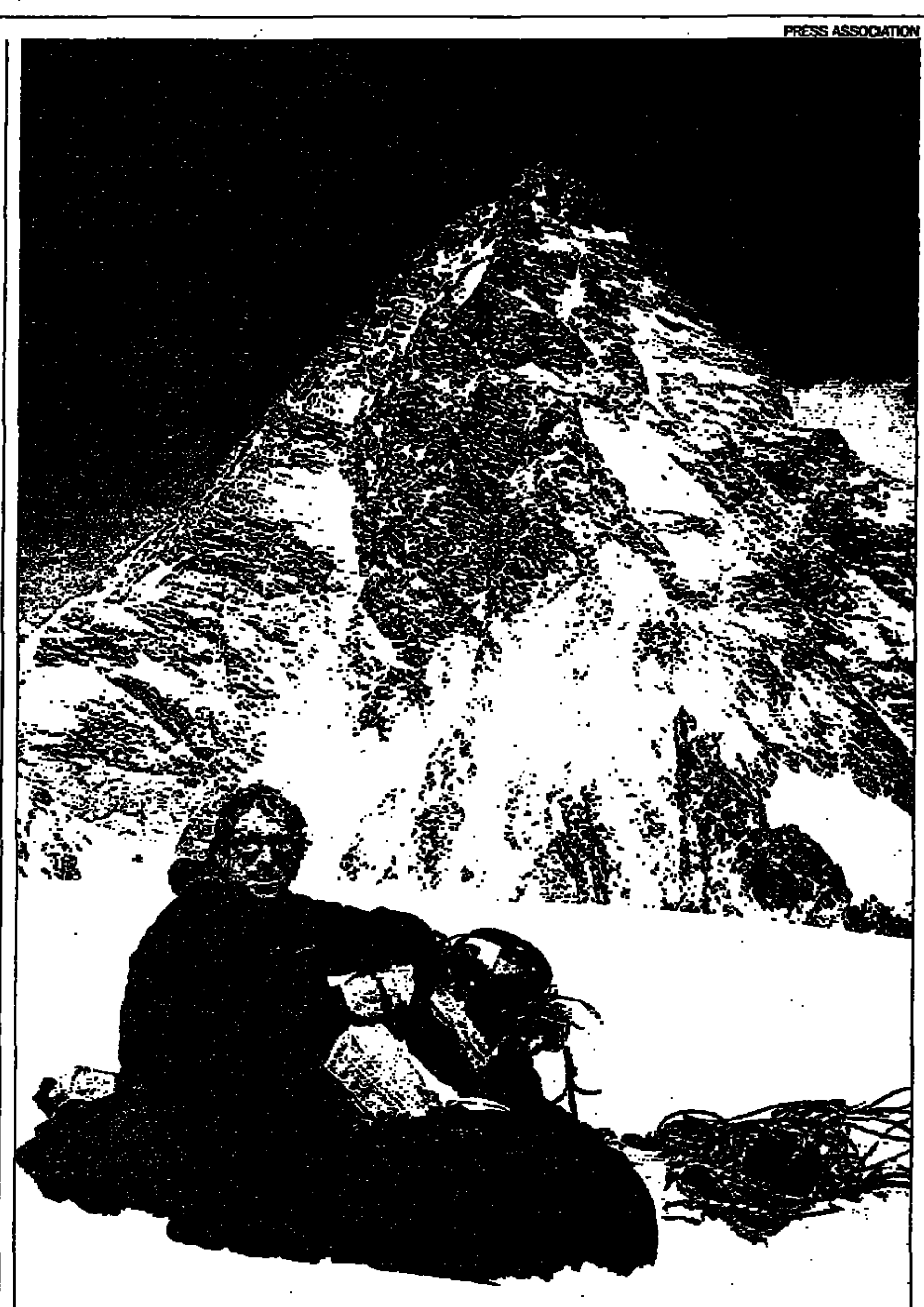
The RAF flew him to Manchester for a Local Government Association conference. They have flown him to Brussels twice and Riga once.

During Britain's European Union presidency, Mr Prescott flew by RAF to European cities including Luxembourg, Copenhagen, Oslo, Frankfurt, Stockholm, Lisbon, Madrid, Amsterdam and Vienna. The average cost of 11 flights was £3,063.

Mr Prescott's admission about Nottingham came in a written answer to Gillian Shephard, the Conservative spokesman for Environment, Transport and the Regions.

She said that ministers appeared to have been seduced by the good life. "To terrorise mothers on the school run saying that they are contributing more than most to pollution while at the same time soaring about in the skies at taxpayers' expense and vastly increasingly pollution is incredible. They think they are kings."

PRESS ASSOCIATION



Jemmison Fisher: he died after being trapped in blizzards for at least four days

Climber knew the risk, says mother

By Shirley English

THE mother of a climber who froze to death on a French mountain said yesterday that her son knew the risks and died doing what he loved.

Jemmison Fisher, 28, from Edinburgh, died on a ridge in the Mont Blanc range after at least four days trapped in 80mph blizzards and temperatures of -30C. His companion, Jamie Andrew, 29, also from Edinburgh, is in intensive care in Chamonix, where he is expected to remain for at least a week.

Pam Fisher, speaking from her home in Oxford, said: "We are completely devastated, but we are very clear he was doing what he loved doing and it was something which lit up his life. We talked a lot in the family of the risks and dangers and he was prepared to accept those risks.He always said if anything happened to him, those who were left behind were not to grieve — easier said than done."

Mr Fisher and Mr Andrew were well known in Scottish climbing circles for finding new routes up Scottish peaks.

Kevin Howett, of the Mountaineering Council for Scotland, said: "These two lads would have become one of the country's most famous climbing teams. They were dedicated, talented climbers."

The two men were very aware of safety issues and did not have a reputation for taking any sort of risks, he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Family die of fume poisoning

A family of four were found dead at their home yesterday from carbon monoxide poisoning. The bodies of Beverly and Jeffrey Cheetham, both 36, and their sons Christopher, 10, and Carl, 8, were discovered in Brimington, Derbyshire.

Neighbours called police after noticing that the curtains had remained drawn since Sunday. Officers broke down the door and several were overcome by gas and were later taken to hospital for tests.

The body of Gladys Stevens, 79, was also found, next door. Police initially said her death was being investigated in connection with those of the family, but later doubted that she was killed by poisonous gas.

Derbyshire police said yesterday: "At this stage we are not treating any of the deaths as suspicious."

Smear payout

A woman found to be suffering from cervical cancer after a GP allegedly failed to advise her to have a smear test accepted £65,000 in settlement of her High Court damages claim. Helen Barthorpe, 39, of Bath, was suing Susan Ball, of Herne Hill, southeast London, who denied negligence.

Teenage thugs

Four teenagers were detained for a total of eight years by Lewes Crown Court, East Sussex, for a gang attack. Two girls aged 13 and 14 and two boys aged 13 and 16 struck a boy of 15 with a metal chain, a plank of wood, fists, fingernails and platform shoes. He spent five days in hospital.

Jagger 'fraud'

Jerry Hall is considering suing Mick Jagger for fraud and false pretences if he continues to claim that the couple were not legally married. She is discussing the option with her divorce lawyers after the singer's claim that their Hindu wedding ceremony in 1990 has no legitimacy in British courts.

Fears over boy

An Exeter schoolboy is feared to have been killed after agreeing to meet two men. Police are searching for George Mortimer, 16, who was last seen on Friday. The rugby captain had just won a scholarship to a public school and his parents say there was no reason for him to have disappeared.

Killed by feathers

A woman who spent 20 years working at home making feather flies for sea anglers died from "Pigeon Fanciers' Lung", a Liverpool inquest was told. Pat O'Brien, 66, was a victim of the respiratory disease caused by an allergic reaction to feathers. Verdict: death by industrial disease.

Privacy row

Plans for a register of personal relationships between staff at Bradford University have outraged lecturers, who say it is intrusive and impugns their integrity. Managers insist the idea is only at the consultation stage. The university said one of the code's intentions was to avoid claims of unfair bias.

Pensioners to get cash back for benefit loss

By James Landale
Political Correspondent

THOUSANDS of pensioners who are losing benefit payments because of a massive computer failure are to receive compensation.

Ministers had promised to compensate only those pensioners and widows who had been underpaid by more than £100. But the Government yesterday bowed to Tory pressure and extended the compensation to all pensioners.

Nearly 400,000 people could receive at least £10 if they lost out as a result of a breakdown in the computer system at the Contributions Agency. The new system, designed to record national insurance numbers, is so faulty that benefits are being estimated for more than a million claimants.

Speaking during a debate on the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions) Bill, Baroness Hollis of Heigham told peers: "Whoever's fault the problem is, it was not caused by widows and pensioners. So we accept that they should suffer no loss."

She said those who did not qualify under existing rules and had experienced "unreasonable delay" would get a "minimum £10 payment on top of the arrears".

Doctors to face regular checks

By Ian Murray, Medical Correspondent

DOCTORS need regular performance checks to make sure they are keeping abreast of treatments and to ensure they remain competent, the General Medical Council said yesterday.

Where a doctor is seen to be falling below standard, the council says everything possible should be done to help remedy the faults. In the "exceptional circumstances" where serious deficencies emerged, then the GMC would be asked to consider suspension or removal from the register.

The GMC said that there was strong public and Government pressure for early progress in setting up a system to ensure that all doctors are fit to practise. The pressure comes after last year's GMC inquiry into babies who died undergoing heart surgery at Bristol Royal Infirmary.

The GMC says that, although doctors must be able to prove they are competent, they should not be required to sit examinations again. They will need to maintain a "profile" of their performance containing a record of their continuing educational activity, a portfolio of wider professional development and a record of participation in clinical audit of their work.

This portfolio would be regularly appraised by the doctor's peers. This would be an extension of the medical royal colleges' regular visits to hospitals and surgeries to review the work of consultants.

Although all doctors would ultimately be covered by this scheme, the GMC says that it will probably be possible only to phase it in for the different skills and crafts.

Horse trainer held

A RACEHORSE owner was among ten suspects being interviewed by detectives yesterday after the seizure of cocaine worth £11.5 million in Belgium en route to Britain (Stewart Tendler writes).

Graham Piper was arrested by officers from the National Crime Squad, who also searched his farm at Wendover Dean, Buckinghamshire. He owns Nipper Read, named after the detective who arrested the Kray Twins.

A two-year investigation resulted in 169kg of cocaine being found in a house outside Ostend. Six suspects were arrested at Heathrow and police searched houses at Runwell, Essex, and seized cannabis.

'Blair Unedited' comes unstuck

By Roland Watson
Political Correspondent

THE new government media strategy designed to sidestep gossip and trivia saw Tony Blair sinking into a limegreen sofa and talking about his old rock band, his family holiday snapshots and Humphrey the cat.

This Morning, the Granada show hosted by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan, was the forum chosen for the Prime Minister to leave the tittle-tattle of Westminster behind and address his public directly. Downing Street has devised the new policy to stop government policies being eclipsed by ministerial Concorde flights or the schooling of the Blair children.

But the first outing of *Blair Unedited* was of questionable success. Mr Blair dealt with public-sector pay announcements, Northern Ireland, Kosovo and Glenn Hoddle, but then discovered, to his apparent unease, that voters are interested in gossip.

One caller wanted to know if, as Baroness Thatcher recently asserted, he was bossy. Mr Blair replied that he was much more likely to lose his temper with the children than with a minister. That appeared to breach No 10's own decree that the children are out of bounds and sparked Tory charges of "gross hypocrisy". It was less than a week since the Blairs complained to the Press Complaints Commission about reports of their daughter's schooling.

An increasingly edgy-looking Mr Blair had to go with the flow as he was asked: How were the children coping? Do they take the mickey out of you? Do they bring their friends home? Do their friends mates feel nervous of you? To which he replied "Very well", "Mercilessly", "Yes", and "No, they are very easy about it."

The outing will be followed by a greater concentration of the Downing Street media efforts on the regional, ethnic, women's and foreign press.

Mother distraught at nanny's dreams

Evidence of a carer's fondness for the baby she killed proved deeply distressing, reports Richard Duce

A MOTHER whose baby was shaken to death by the Australian nanny Louise Sullivan screamed in court yesterday after hearing evidence that the killer still dreamt fondly about the child.

Muriel Jongen's distress shocked the Old Bailey hearing as a doctor giving evidence on Sullivan's behalf said that the nanny still grieved for the six-month-old girl.

Mrs Jongen, who is French, had initially sat quietly through the hearing at which Sullivan, 27, faced sentence for the manslaughter of Caroline Jongen in April last year. Then came the evidence of Henry Kennedy, a consultant psychiatrist, who was asked by Nadine Radford, QC, Sullivan's barrister, for a current appraisal of the nanny's feelings about the death.

Dr Kennedy replied: "She tells me there isn't a day that goes by that she doesn't remember baby Caroline. She thinks what she would be doing now if she were still there. She dreams about the baby, she describes dreams in a sense which is emotionally comforting.

"This is a common phenomenon in someone working through the loss of someone of whom they were very fond."

By now Mrs Jongen was clearly in distress and, when Dr Kennedy said that Sullivan, who has an IQ of only 81, was under stress from the court proceedings, the mother began to scream.

Mrs Jongen, who had been sitting behind Nigel Sweeney, the prosecution barrister, was led from the court by her Dutch-born husband, Marcel, a banker. Sullivan, dressed in a brown suit, appeared bemused by the outbreak of emotion and was led passively from the dock.

The case was halted temporarily but, as it became clear that Mrs Jongen was in no condition to return quickly, the court adjourned early for lunch. When it reconvened, Mr and Mrs Jongen, of Cricklewood, northwest London, were back in their seats.

At an earlier hearing last month, Sullivan, from Fairlight, Sydney, admitted manslaughter, but denied shaking the baby hard after the child appeared to have a fit.



Muriel Jongen: led from court by her husband

While accepting her plea because there was no evidence of premeditation, the prosecution said that there was evidence of "severe force" and that the fatal injuries to the child were consistent with the brain being shaken "like a jelly in a mould".

As Miss Radford sought to convince the judge, Mr Justice Mitchell, that Sullivan needed treatment and not imprisonment, Dr Kennedy and Sarah Henley, a psychologist, described how Sullivan was born without a thyroid gland.

The condition was not detected until she was ten weeks old and was to have a profound effect on her intelligence. Her IQ, when tested, put her "at the bottom end of the below-average range of intellectual functioning", Dr Henley said.

Sullivan faced a high risk of a nervous breakdown because, while she understood the consequences of her actions, their impact had still to hit home.

"I think she has still to fully understand what has happened. She seems to accept she must not be in charge of babies or others who are dependent on her." Dr Henley said she believed that Sullivan had probably reverted to an established medical practice known as "shake and shout" in trying to revive Caroline.

Dr Kennedy said he believed that Sullivan's thyroid condition meant she would have a tendency towards depression and anxiety. Her parents had separated when she was eight and, while most children would prove resilient, Sullivan would "lack the ability to bounce back and cope in difficult situations".

The court has heard that Sullivan had many references and an impressive CV when she was appointed to the £140-a-week job.

The Jongens left Sullivan at home with their daughter on April 17 before going to work. At 11am an ambulance was called and Sullivan telephoned a neighbour, who described her as sounding "panicky". The child was taken to Great Ormond Street hospital, where she died on April 21.

The judge said he would need time to consider the medical evidence produced on Sullivan's behalf and would pass sentence today.

MICHAEL CRABTREE



Louise Sullivan yesterday: the court was told she needed treatment, not imprisonment

Woman tells of sea rescue by seals

By Paul Wilkinson

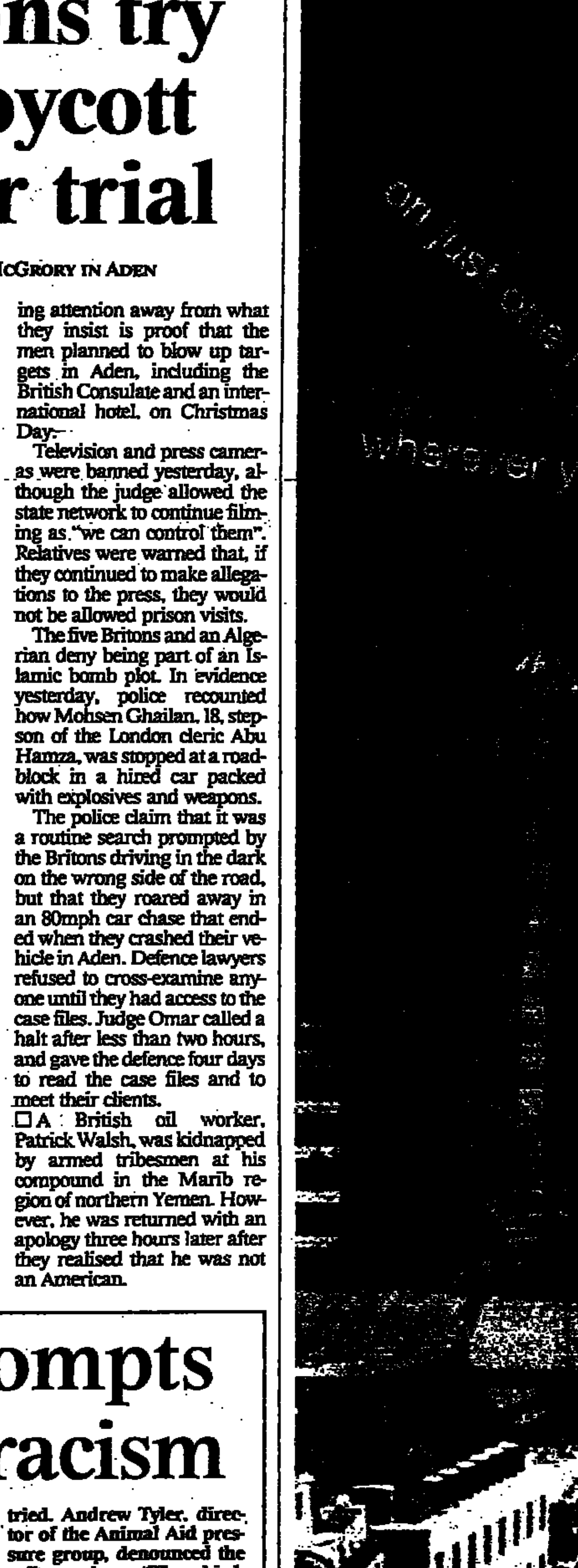
A WOMAN rescued after struggling vainly for an hour against strong currents in an icy sea claimed yesterday that she had been saved by a group of seals.

Charlene Camburn, 30, got into difficulties as she tried to swim for help when she, her six-year-old son and her boyfriend were caught by the rising tide on a sandbank. But instead of reaching the shore she found herself being swept out to sea. Then, she says, six seals surrounded her and stopped her drifting farther from land until a lifeboat crew spotted her and the seals.

The drama began at 5.30 on Sunday night after she and Chris Tomlinson, 36, had taken her son, Brogan, to the Donna Nook sandbanks on the Lincolnshire coast, near Cleethorpes, to watch the seals.

Brian Bevan, coxswain of the Humber lifeboat, eventually spotted Ms Camburn swimming among the seals. "I don't think she would have lasted very much longer. She could easily have been completely missed and carried out to sea in the darkness."

Back at home after recovering from hypothermia, Ms Camburn said: "I haven't the slighest doubt the seals helped to save me. There were about half a dozen, big and noisy. They were barking loudly and I was so near them I could touch them. They seemed to stop me where I was."



One of the group ejected from the Airtours flight

'Air rage' group stranded

By Arthur Leathley and James Bone

TWELVE British holidaymakers were stranded in the United States last night, 24 hours after being ordered off a charter aircraft following a drunken dispute.

The six men and six women were forced to abandon their holiday after the Jamaica-bound Airtours jet made an unscheduled stop in Norfolk, Virginia, to eject them. Last night the group was still unable to arrange flights home and did not have their luggage, which was flown to Jamaica.

The extended family group, most of whom are from Lewisham, southeast London, also face the threat of a £20,000 claim from Airtours to cover the cost of diverting the plane.

Miles Connor, 35, one of those ejected, said that they had been enjoying an "Irish singsong" when another passenger threw a drink over him. "I feel guilty because now the rest of them have been punished."

☐ Airlines yesterday met government officials to discuss ways of improving the reporting of disruptive passengers.

Britons try to boycott terror trial

From Daniel McGrory in Aden

GUARDS jabbed rifle butts into the backs of five Britons yesterday to force them back into court after they tried to boycott their trial in Yemen on terrorism charges. For several minutes, they struggled with about 15 guards at the foot of the narrow stairs leading up to the dock, complaining of "a kangaroo court".

As lawyers on both sides harangued the judge about this latest interruption, sounds of struggle could be heard clearly as soldiers hauled the men into No 1 Court. It took three guards to manhandle 6ft 3in Shahid Butt, 33, a student from Birmingham. One of the visiting friends from Britain who tried to reach the men was shoved away by a guard who shouted: "Get out, you dog."

As the mêlée in the dock threatened to spill into the public gallery, several more officers clambered over the wooden benches and hurled themselves at the accused while Judge Gamal Ahmed Omar tried to restore order.

The threatened boycott had come after another refusal by the judge to let the Britons speak to their lawyers. When the prosecutors gestured for the defence team to make their clients return, Sheikh Tariq Abdullah, their senior counsel, sharply replied: "I will do no such thing."

Security chiefs are infuriated at newspaper reports of the men's claims that they had confessions tortured out of them and that some were sexually abused. Prosecutors feel that the torture claims are diverting attention away from what they insist is proof that the men planned to blow up targets in Aden, including the British Consulate and an international hotel, on Christmas Day.

Television and press cameras were banned yesterday, although the judge allowed the state network to continue filming as "we can control them". Relatives were warned that, if they continued to make allegations to the press, they would not be allowed prison visits.

The five Britons and an Algerian deny being part of an Islamic bomb plot. In evidence yesterday, police recounted how Mohsen Ghailan, 18, stepson of the London cleric Abu Hamza, was stopped at a roadblock in a hired car packed with explosives and weapons.

The police claim that it was a routine search prompted by the Britons driving in the dark on the wrong side of the road, but that they roared away in an 80mph car chase that ended when they crashed their vehicle in Aden. Defence lawyers refused to cross-examine anyone until they had access to the case files. Judge Omar called a halt after less than two hours, and gave the defence four days to read the case files and to meet their clients.

☐ A British oil worker, Patrick Walsh, was kidnapped by armed tribesmen at his compound in the Marib region of northern Yemen. However, he was returned with an apology three hours later after they realised that he was not an American.

Duck cull prompts call of ruddy racism

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

SOME ducks must die so that others may live, the Environment Minister has decided.

Michael Meacher has authorised a controversial cull of the ruddy duck, a species originally introduced from the United States by the ornithologist Sir Peter Scott.

Ruddy ducks have since escaped, multiplied and spread to Europe, interbreeding with the rare white-headed duck. This threatens the future of the white-headed duck, now down to 1,000 birds, all of which breed in Spain.

Yesterday Mr Meacher announced a trial cull in the West Midlands, Anglesey and Fife to see if it is feasible to control the numbers of ruddy ducks. He has accepted advice from the White-Headed Duck Task Force, which recommends trying to exterminate the ruddy duck in Britain within ten years.

Ruddy duck: guns will start firing in the spring

The guns will start firing in the spring, with the aim of killing as many ruddy ducks as possible. Where shooting is not feasible, humane trapping will be tried. Andrew Tyler, director of the Animal Aid pressure group, denounced the cull, saying: "The birdwatching anoraks won't tolerate this mixing of blood. They object not only because they are offended by the idea of genetic impurity but because it makes it more difficult to compile the lists of birds seen through their binoculars."

Mr Meacher said that it had been a difficult decision to take, but it had been taken because "we have a duty to maintain, as far as we can, the diversity of species".

Mr Tyler said that that was nonsense: if the white-headed duck were a distinct species, it would not interbreed with the ruddy duck, he said. The cull amounted to "species racism".

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Black motorist loses claim for harassment

By Peter Foster

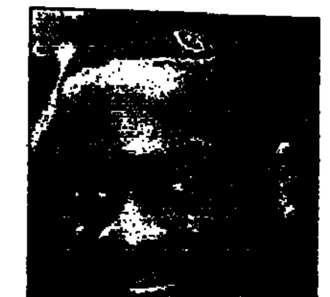
A BLACK motorist who claimed that he was stopped by police 34 times in two years failed yesterday in his attempt to sue a police force for racial harassment.

In the first case of its kind Carl Josephs, 27, had used the civil courts in an effort to gain compensation from West Midlands Police officers whom he accused of racial harassment, abuse of office and false imprisonment. But, after nearly two days of deliberation, a jury at Birmingham High Court found against Mr Josephs on nine counts and failed to reach a decision on four others.

Earlier during the 12-day hearing, Richard Wakerely, QC, the Recorder, had directed the jury, which included two black men, to consider only 13 counts as Mr Josephs had no documentary proof of the 21 others. Mr Josephs had told the court that he "lived in fear of persecution" by officers, and that it had forced him to sell his red MG Metro and catch buses to work. He also had to take medical advice for stress.

The jury's findings were greeted with disbelief by Mr Josephs' supporters, who had packed the courtroom during the hearing. Outside, Mr Josephs said: "I am sickened by the outcome of this case. This decision has completely shattered my confidence in the police force. This has let down all car drivers who suffer from police harassment, both black and white.

"It's a shame that the police always say to the black community, 'Come to us, we'll listen to you and your problems.' How can anyone have any faith in the police if they treat me like they have done and then get away with it?"


Josephs: he won £1,000 for false imprisonment

Despite the decision and the cost of the case, most of which will be met by the Legal Aid Board, with the remainder coming from his own pocket, Mr Josephs said that he was pleased to have gone ahead with the action.

"I don't think this was a pointless exercise because even the police aren't stupid enough to stop me again without a good reason," he said.

Lee Jasper, the director of London-based black civil and human rights charity the 1990 Trust, said that he was angered by the result of the case, though not surprised. "The criminal justice system has yet again failed the black community in a case which demonstrated clear-cut, gross discrimination," he said.

He also raised the possibility that the black community in Birmingham might react angrily. "After the Stephen Lawrence case and inquiry, I'd say the prospect of demonstrations by the black community demanding their human rights is very likely," he said.

In a small victory for Mr Josephs, West Midlands Police agreed to pay him £1,000 in damages for false imprisonment for an alleged motoring offence in September 1996. His conviction was quashed on appeal last year and Mr Wakerley yesterday ordered the jury to find for Mr Josephs in that instance.


Meggie Gan puts her £4 an hour for school cleaning towards a place at Cambridge

Polishing up on her maths

By Simon de Bruxelles

WHEN Meggie Gan's classmates pack their books to go home, she puts on her overalls and starts work as a cleaner at her own school.

The Chinese A-level student is working to pay for the place she has been offered at Cambridge University. Meggie, 18, works for four hours every night at Bruton School for Girls in Somerset, where she has a scholarship.

All the £4.03 an hour she earns for 20 hours a week at the day and boarding school will go towards the £14,000-a-year cost of her university place. During the holidays she works as a waitress.

Her after-school chores include scrubbing and polishing floors, emptying bins and cleaning lavatories. Then she sits down to study.

Meggie said yesterday: "I am tired sometimes. But I am really delighted to be here and I don't mind if that means being a cleaner. Some day there will be a lot of work for me to do when I return to China and I want to be able to help my own country."

A gifted mathematician, she was encouraged to write to British schools by an English teacher on temporary placement at her school in China. She tearfully left her widowed mother after winning a £9,000-a-year scholarship to Bruton and is expected to gain five As at A level.

After two successive gold medals in the UK Mathematics Challenge, Trinity College, Cambridge, offered her a place reading maths and physics. But she must satisfy the college that she can finance her education.

Ann Napier, acting headteacher of the 620-girl school, said: "She is so independent and she is willing to work exceptionally hard to achieve her goals. I'm sure she will be rewarded for all her efforts."

Church shuns millennium baby race

By Paul Wilkinson

A TELEVISION event aimed at creating millennium babies has been attacked by church and family groups for devaluing human life. March 17 has been identified as the best date to begin efforts for conceiving a child to be born on January 1, 2000, and ITV plans an evening of "sex-oriented programming to get the nation in the mood".

Controversy over *Birth Race 2000* yesterday centred on a one-hour documentary being made by Yorkshire TV, featuring ten couples hoping to have their child born on the first day of 2000. The company has begun a search for couples prepared to allow access to their pregnancies and YTV is also approaching hospitals across the country to be in maternity units on January 1.

Two follow-up programmes will chart the developments of any successful pregnancies and the producers hope to have their cameras in at the birth. But churchmen said the idea devalued human life and encouraged people to have babies just to get on television.

A spokesman for the Roman Catholic Church said: "It's making a mockery of what a child is about. Having a child to get on TV must be the height of absurdity." Gavin Drake, a spokesman for the Evangelical Alliance, said: "A baby is for life, not just the millennium. What matters is whether a couple feel able to offer a lifetime of love and care, not which couple can be the first to deliver on one date."

Pippa Smith, of Families Involved in Raising Media Awareness, which campaigns against immoral and explicit material, said: "You have to wonder how low some TV companies will go. It's treating people like guinea pigs."

A YTV spokeswoman insisted that couples were being asked to take part only if they had already intended to have children around the new year: "They will not be paid for participating and they will be screened very carefully. If we find they are doing it just to get on television, then they will be dropped immediately.

"Having the birthdate 1.1.2000 will be a bonus in life for a child and quite cool, but we are not encouraging people to get pregnant for TV entertainment." There was no guarantee that any of its potential mothers would give birth on January 1, but "it would be fantastic if our couples were still in that race".

YTV also plans a wildlife programme on sexual attraction to be shown on what has become known as "Bonk Night", the exact date of which has yet to be fixed. David Liddiment, ITV Director of Programmes, said: "YTV as come up with a truly original idea, which will provide us with a fantastic opportunity to have some fun on the night."

Expert lawyers to handle medical negligence work

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

MILLIONS of pounds of public money are likely to be saved under an approved scheme for medical negligence claims, which, from this week, will allow only about 200 franchised solicitors in England and Wales to handle the work.

At present any solicitor can represent people on legal aid who claim negligence by hospital doctors, GPs, dentists or other clinical practitioners. More than 3,000 solicitors a year bring cases. But there is a high rate of failure and nearly half the cases end without a trial or settlement, costing the taxpaper about £14 million in legal aid fees.

From this week, only solicitors who are franchised under the Legal Aid Board's quality assurance scheme may bring cases. To win a franchise they must prove specialist competence and membership of a professionally accredited panel.

Because of the much reduced network of outlets of legal advice, approved solicitors will be expected to travel to people with potential claims who find it difficult to reach their offices.

Legal Aid Board figures for 1996-97 show that damages won by specialist solicitors averaged £48,500, compared with £18,000 for non-specialists. For every £1 they cost in legal aid fees, the specialist solicitors won £4.10 in damages, compared with £1.70 for other solicitors.

Doctor denies stalking charge

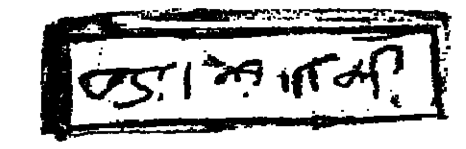
A DOCTOR appeared in court yesterday charged with harassing a midwife.

Michael Dale, an anaesthetist, of Blackpool, denied stalking Shantel Airey and her fiancé Andrew Weatherburn.

Preston magistrates were told that Dr Dale had been seen by Miss Airey around the Royal Preston Hospital and in the hospital car park. He once appeared 200 miles away in Berwick-upon-Tweed when Miss Airey had gone to stay with Dr Weatherburn's parents on the Scottish border, the court was told.

Dr Dale is charged with offences between May 8 and August 8, 1998, but the court was told that, previously, he had waited outside Miss Airey's house and her gym and once followed her to a friend's home. He is also charged with harassing Dr Weatherburn between June 14 and August 9 last year.

The case continues.



Selective memory of a tarnished talent

England coach has long shown an inept touch with the media

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

GLENN HODDLE was revered throughout the land for his sublime skills as a player for club and country. As a player-manager with Swindon Town and Chelsea, he was regarded as one of the country's brightest young managerial talents. The world awaited his smooth transformation from one of the lads to big-time boss.

It did not happen and, perhaps, never will. Since succeeding Terry Venables as England coach 2½ years ago, his standing has fallen swiftly and spectacularly. He has become an increasingly isolated figure, still hugely confident in his own ability yet unable to accept the opinions or criticism of others.

Many of his problems have been self-inflicted, with his deep mistrust of the press — the omnipresent pack that accompanies the international squad on its travels — having grown to the point of paranoia. Long gone are the honeymoon days of his early reign, when the media treated him with sympathy and respect.

During the World Cup finals in France last summer, much of the British press was upset because England's eve-of-match press conferences left them guessing. If Hoddle said a player was injured, it was possible that he might play the next day; if Hoddle said the player was fit, he could well be injured.

Before the vital group match against Romania, Hoddle decreed that Gareth Southgate, the Aston Villa defender, should masquerade as a picture of health. Hoddle recalled the incident, without a hint of remorse, in his post-World Cup diary *Glenn Hoddle — My 1998 World Cup Story*: "For the Romanian match we were certainly going to pretend that Gareth was fit when he wasn't," he wrote. "I had no qualms about it; I was just doing my job as a coach.

"Gareth was very honest to me about his injury but his disappointment was obvious. The press wanted to talk to him and I didn't want to block it. I told him and all the players to stick to the line that the team hadn't been named and that Gareth was making progress (which he was).

"Let's be clear — the Romanians would have been delighted to be told in advance that Gareth wasn't playing." Hoddle dismissed it as managerial mind games, a common practice among coaches and managers at every level. However, Southgate was uncomfortable with the charade.

> ‘Publicly, most England players express confidence in him; privately, many have lost all respect’

The Arsenal and England defender Tony Adams was not impressed by Hoddle, either, and said so in his book, *Addicted*, which was also published after the World Cup finals. He claimed that Hoddle had treated some of the players like children and that he had sensationalised several of the incidents that had occurred in France. When the pair were asked to sit together before England's European Championship qualifying game against Sweden in September — an excruciating piece of stage management by the Football Association — Hoddle appeared to be unmoved by Adams's recollections. "Tony would not have known half the situation," he said blandly. "It's just his opinion as a player."

He could hardly object to Adams's tone. His own kiss-and-tell memoirs of France 98 had already embarrassed many of his players, particularly Paul Gascoigne. Although Gascoigne had been left out of the squad, and reacted emotionally on hearing the news, Hoddle chose to retell the tale in all its gory detail.

He earned £200,000 from the book and a further amount from its serialisation in *The Sun*, yet when the articles appeared, under predictably lurid headlines, Hoddle expressed his annoyance, particularly at "Drunk Gazza trashed my room".

Hoddle said: "Things like 'Gazza trashed my room' are just not in the book. I felt I would only go into that situation [of serialisation] with some control over the headlines. The balance was right apart from that headline, which could not have been further from the truth.

"There was no way I would have allowed it to go in, but the control was out of my hands. At the end of the day, the fax machine was broken."

Hoddle once said that Michael Owen, who scored England's most memorable goal of the tournament, was not a "natural goalscorer" and then denied it, claiming that his comments had been misinterpreted by the journalist who spoke to him. After Paul Ince had been sent off in the game against Sweden, and then flicked a V-sign at the England bench as he walked off, Hoddle said: "I don't know who it was aimed at. The only issue is him backchatting the referee."

Publicly, most of the England players still express their confidence in Hoddle; privately, many of them have lost all respect. He sees what he wants, hears what he wants and has the most selective of memories — as Anne, his former wife, will testify.

On Hoddle's return from France, the FA issued a statement. It read: "The England coach, Glenn Hoddle, wishes it to be known that with great sadness he has separated from his wife. This is a personal and private matter . . . nobody else is involved."

On January 5 this year, the marriage was ended in court on the ground that it had irretrievably broken down. The court was told that Hoddle had admitted adultery.

MARC ASPLAND

When all was champion: Glenn Hoddle showing his delight as England clinched their World Cup final place after drawing 0-0 against Italy

Stout defender fights to hold the line

BY KEVIN McCARRA AND PHILIP WEBSTER

DAVID DAVIES, the acting chief executive of the Football Association, has been fielding calls from disabled people complaining about Glenn Hoddle.

Yesterday's newspapers had reported widespread condemnation of Hoddle's remarks from within the Government. Margaret Hodge, the Minister for the Disabled, was the first to break cover and call outright for his resignation.

But Mr Davies's own experience at the Lancaster Gate FA headquarters at the hands of angry callers and the knowledge of the Government's views may have been the final nail for the beleaguered England coach.

Mr Davies has been one of Hoddle's stoutest defenders and co-wrote his book about last year's World Cup, which resulted in both of them being pilloried by the media.

The former BBC correspondent has good links with the Labour Government and was last year tipped to join it as a spin-doctor. He is understood to have had several conversations with Downing Street officials in recent days.

At the moment it is vital for Mr Davies to maintain good relations with the Government. England's bid for the 2006 World Cup is on the table; the Prime Minister has played a big behind-the-scenes role in putting the home case to Sepp Blatter, president of Fifa. Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, has toured Fifa countries with the likes of Bobby Charlton to push for support.



Davies: discussions with Downing Street officials

The FA needed to reassert its control. Last month Keith Wiseman followed the example of Graham Kelly, the chief executive, by resigning as chairman after the scandal over unauthorised payments to the Football Association of Wales. Geoff Thompson, the acting chairman of the FA, appreciates the need to dispel any further impression of anarchy at the FA headquarters.

Meanwhile across London Mr Blair was appearing on an ITV daytime chat-show.

The Government's public attitude to Mr Hoddle had veered several times over the weekend. When *The Times* story about the interview broke late on Friday, caution was urged on ministers by Downing Street. "Let's wait and see exactly what was said," was the advice to ministers asking how they should comment.

But when tapes emerged on Saturday afternoon showing that Mr Hoddle had made similar remarks before in a BBC interview that caution was thrown to the wind. Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, went close to suggesting resignation. David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, who is himself blind, happily joked about Hoddle and Mr Banks suggested that Hoddle's punishment for his present sins might be to return in the next life as — Glenn Hoddle.

Mrs Hodge called for him to quit on Sunday but other ministers — probably knowing the FA's intentions — said it was for them to decide. But yesterday Mr Blair was ready to talk.

"If he said what he was reported to have said and in the way he was reported to have said it, then I think that was very wrong," he said. "I think it is important that we establish whether he really did say it in the way he was reported to have said it." He added: "If he has really said it in the way that he has been reported to have said it, it is very offensive."

He may have felt it was wrong for a Prime Minister to call for the resignation of a football coach. Inevitably, however, that was how his remarks were interpreted.

Hoddle decided to mount his last-ditch defence. But this will do nothing to divert critics from the fact that the most recent, and explicit, statement was not exactly new.

The FA squad who will decide his fate

BY ADAM SHERWIN

GLENN HODDLE was last night struggling to win support from the men who will decide his fate as the England football coach.

Four members of the FA International Committee, the 14-man executive body which retains the power to appoint and dismiss the England manager, expressed dismay at Mr Hoddle's comments and wanted to hear a personal explanation. No member of the committee, which includes some of football's most powerful administrators, was prepared to endorse Hoddle as manager.

Geoff Thompson, the FA's acting chairman, was informed of the committee members' views before his meeting with Hoddle last night. Jack Wiseman, life vice-president of the FA and member of its council for 24 years, said: "One can't help but be aware of the offence that has been caused. The FA cannot shirk its responsibilities and we won't."

A vice-chairman of Birmingham City, Mr Wiseman is proud of his club's record in assisting the disabled. "I can only admire the great strides that the disabled have made," he said. "We invite them to functions and help wherever we can."

John Davey, of Sussex FA, said : "It was a silly and unwise thing to say. People should stick to the job they know and Glenn should stick to football."

He added: "I have a disability. I had to have a replacement knee but it wasn't anything to do with my past life . . . I got the injury from playing football."

Ray Berridge, of Bedfordshire FA, said: "Disabled people have every right to play sport, including football. I don't want this issue to drag down the FA and there must be a decision one way or another."

Mr Berridge gives active support to Luton Deaf, a local disabled team. "They play in a recognised league and we treat them just like anyone else. The Bedfordshire FA makes sure of that."

Ray Kiddell, of Norfolk FA, said : "I want to hear Glenn give us his views. The FA has a good record with people who have disabilities and that will continue to be our policy. Football needs all kinds of people."

Members of the FA International Committee who declined to offer their support to Hoddle and expressed "no comment" included Sir Bert Millichip, the former FA chairman, Doug Ellis, the Aston Villa chairman, and David Dein, deputy chairman of Arsenal.

WHAT THEY SAID

He is a spiritual bloke and obviously believes what he is saying, but if he has views that are off the wall he has to keep them to himself.

Gary Lineker former England captain

I think he has to wash his head out. There is no point in saying he did not say what he did because Eileen Drewery has been saying the same thing. Unless he can face up to himself and separate his cranky religious beliefs from his job as England manager he has to go.

David Mellor Football Task Force chairman

He has a responsibility to ensure his personal views shouldn't be confused with those of the England team, the FA or its sponsors. Nationwide will not allow its good reputation to be tarnished in any way.

Mark Lazenby marketing director of Nationwide, the FA's £8 million sponsors

I think that Glenn Hoddle's opinions are hurtful, absurd and ridiculous. But I do not believe he should be sacked for his opinions, and he is entitled to express these opinions just like everybody else.

Lord Ashley of Stoke

He should get out more into the world. I think it shows he really has a bizarre state of mind.

Damon Hill, who has a son with Down's Syndrome

If you were a disabled person listening to this type of thing you would think, 'My goodness, what a dreadful thing to say'.

Tony Blair

If Hoddle has any sense of decency for the feelings of disabled workers, sports men and women he will spare them further embarrassment and resign.

Phil Davies, secretary of the Remploy Trade Union Consortium

Spain urged to extradite M25 suspect

Kenneth Noye claims he will not get a fair trial in Britain, report Stephen Farrell and Giles Tremlett

KENNETH NOYE yesterday protested his innocence of the "road rage" murder of Stephen Cameron and claimed police had identified him illegally.

Mr Noye, 51, told three judges at the Audencia Nacional in Madrid that he had been picked out by a woman in a restaurant in southern Spain where he was the only Briton. He insisted that he could not get a fair hearing in Britain because he had already been tried by the media.

Sitting in the dock behind bulletproof glass, Mr Noye was denied permission to question detectives from Kent police who were in court with a representative from the Crown Prosecution Service. Asked why he opposed extradition, he told the court: "Because I am innocent and I have had a trial by media. It is impossible for me to get a fair trial."



Cameron: extradition is sought over his killing

Wearing spectacles and reading from notepapers, he told the court he had been in Spain for two years before his arrest, but that no warrant had been issued until police located him near Barbate, on the coast, last August, more than two years after Mr Cameron died on an M25 slip road near Swanley, Kent, in May 1996.

He claimed Kent police flew out the woman on August 21, but did not use her to identify him until a week later, and questioned what had happened in the intervening period. "They fly the girl out on August 21, I believe, and on August 28 they come to a restaurant with the girl and I am sitting there and they identified me. So the girl is here for one week with the police officers. *Una semana*. What are they doing with this woman?" he asked.

After Mr Noye was traced to southern Spain, detectives flew Mr Cameron's girlfriend, Danielle Cable, out to identify him.

He claimed the identification was illegal under Spanish and British law, insisting he was merely asking the court to be fair and reasonable. He asked the judges to put themselves in his position as "an English person sitting in a restaurant full of Spanish people" and, pointing to his grey hair, claimed the original suspect identified had been "a man with dark hair and much younger".

The chief state prosecutor, Eduardo Fungairino, said the court's job was not to determine innocence or guilt, but to allow the extradition because all the papers had been correctly submitted by Britain.

He argued that, because Britain had signed the European convention on extradition, it did not need to establish that there was a prima facie case to answer, and the court had no alternative but to accept the decision by the Kent magistrate to issue a warrant. He claimed it was up to the British courts to determine if the identification was valid and argued that British law matched Spanish law in relation to the alleged offence and sentence.

Manuel Murillo, acting for Mr Noye, said the prosecution had put forward insufficient grounds. He said the killer originally described by police was in his twenties, whereas Mr Noye was in his fifties, and pointed out that his client's picture had appeared throughout the British press, showing cuttings to the judges.

Indirectly referring to the Pinochet extradition being sought in Britain by Spain, Señor Murillo said the British authorities were demanding a "huge quantity" of evidence and documents. The Spanish judges in this case had the powers to request similar details, and should do so, he said. The written judgment is expected within a few days. If he loses, Mr Noye has three days to lodge an appeal.

At the request of defence lawyers, the high-security court was cleared of photographers and television cameramen before the suntanned Mr Noye, wearing jeans, jersey and a jacket, was led into the dock. His handcuffs were removed for the hour-long hearing, during which he nodded and gestured to a woman friend who moved to the front of the public gallery to be nearer him.

After the hearing the woman, who refused to give her name, lashed out angrily at British cameramen waiting to photograph him being taken from the court back to a maximum-security prison in Madrid, where he has been held since he was transferred from Cadiz shortly after his arrest.



A friend of Kenneth Noye lashes out at a British cameraman after the extradition hearing in Madrid. Mr Noye said he was innocent of the M25 murder



Cleaning up: Stephen Reynolds collects another token

Taking a shine to book tokens

By Hannah Betts

A SHOESHINE service is using its position at people's feet as a way of collecting as many Free Books for Schools tokens as possible.

Stephen Reynolds, who runs Steve's Shoeshine Service, at City Airport, East London, said that many of his 50 daily customers were *Times* readers.

He asks them to donate the token from their newspaper, as they read it while they get their shoes cleaned.

Mr Reynolds said: "I'm fairly blunt and to the point, but I always ask politely. I like to think I'm spreading the word."

His idea has proved popular with customers, who applaud his public-spiritedness. Mr Reynolds' campaign has also made the airport tidier: he makes a daily dash round to gather up abandoned newspapers.

More than 26,000 schools have registered to collect tokens to put towards the various free books on offer. Mr Reynolds has yet to decide which local school is to benefit from his work: he is seeking a small one where his contribution will make a real difference.

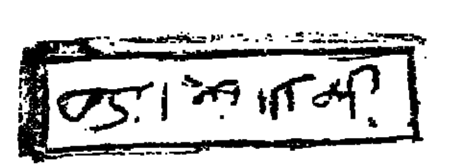


His main motivation stems from having been a reluctant reader himself when he was at school.

"I'd like to be able to give children an opportunity I never had. If, like me, you don't start the habit of reading as a child, it's much more difficult to pick it up later in life. The scheme is a brilliant idea," he said.

☐ Is your school or business doing something exciting for the Free Books For Schools scheme? Call our hotline on 0171-895 9018 and tell us about it and you may be entered for our Free Books For Schools Honours List, to be published at the end of the offer

Token, page 20



Teachers must meet targets to get more cash

By John O'Leary
Education Editor

SCHOOLS

TEACHERS will receive a 3.5 per cent pay rise from April under the public sector pay awards announced yesterday. But they will have to meet targets for improvement in pupils' results to qualify for bigger increases over the next two years.

Head teachers are to be given the same initial rise as their classroom staff but a restructuring of their salary scales in September will bring the average up to 6.5 per cent. Heads of the smallest primary schools will receive a 9.5 per cent increase.

The differential, which will see salaries of some secondary heads reach £70,000 a year, was attacked by classroom unions. But head teachers and government sources said the rises were necessary to tackle recruitment shortages.

As the recommendations of the School Teachers Review Body for the coming year were adopted in full, ministers published detailed proposals for performance-related pay to be introduced in 2000. Every teacher will face an annual appraisal, which will be used by governors to set pay levels at the start of the school year.

Only those who can demonstrate that they meet "threshold standards", including consistent high achievement by their pupils, will have access to higher pay scales. Estelle Morris, the School Standards Minister, outlining the proposals, confirmed that a majority of teachers were expected to qualify eventually.

The linking of pupils' results to teachers' pay remains highly controversial. The government guidance said targets for improvement in results should be "realistic but challenging". Those who chose sufficiently ambitious targets might pass their appraisal even if their pupils' results fell short.

Even before the classroom teachers' scheme comes into effect, heads will be able to boost their salaries if they meet targets for the performance of their schools. The full cost of the package during the coming financial year will be £409 million, with £1 billion spread over the next two years.

Yesterday's award brought calls from local education authorities for an extra £120 million to prevent cuts in other services. The Local Government Association said it could afford no more than a 3 per cent rise, but David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, insisted that an extra £1.1 billion allocated to education should be enough to cover the award.

The award was the first for three years not to be phased by the Government. Ministers hoped that payment in full and the prospect of large rises for many teachers from performance-related pay would make the heads' increases acceptable.

But the leader of the biggest teaching union responded to the announcement with a threat of industrial action. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers — which is adamantly opposed to the performance-related pay proposals — said: "The Government seems determined to push teachers towards industrial action. This award represents a net increase of 1 per cent after teachers are compensated for the accrued loss caused by staging. Teachers were disappointed last year that their increase was staged."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, accused the Government of "making a pig's ear" of teachers' pay. "Last year we had staging, this year we have discrimination. The shortages go all the way through the system."

But David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, welcomed the announcement. "Those who criticise the pay award to heads are disingenuous, because all concerned knew that head teachers were being dealt with separately this year."

Libby Purves, page 16
Leading article, page 17

PAY BY RESULTS FOR NHS

The Government took the first steps towards restructuring public sector pay by directing extra money to groups with recruitment or retention difficulties (Jill Sherman writes).

Ministers agreed to back the recommendations of the five independent pay review bodies and to give higher pay awards to certain grades within professions rather than allocating the same rise to all staff.

Last night Downing Street officials made clear that in future pay would be linked much more closely to performance and local managers would have more say in determining levels. David Blunkett has already angered the teaching unions by publishing a Green Paper which for the first time links pay with schools' performance. This practice will be extended to the health service, where nurses at top performing hospitals may get more than those which do less well in league tables.

The Tory Government tried to introduce local pay bargaining for the health service about five years ago, but failed when it resulted in interminable local appeals where nurses felt they had lost out.

Yesterday Downing Street insisted that the five independent pay review bodies would remain at least for another year. But a consultation paper published within the next two weeks will focus on extending powers to local managers to allow more flexibility.



John Ridgley, the head teacher at Marion Richardson primary school, with staff: he said that performance-related pay would be divisive

Performance pay 'will cause resentment'

By Hannah Betts

THE STAFFROOM

ALL the teachers at Marion Richardson primary school in Tower Hamlets, East London, are classed by the head as "superteachers" but not one would yesterday give their backing to performance-related pay.

Marion Richardson defies the stereotype of the inner-city school, with a full staff of permanent teachers and Ofsted's top grade for school ethos (level 1). However, John Ridgley, head teacher for 20 years, is as dubious about the benefits of the new scheme, as he is about his own role as evaluator. "I'd rather see teachers rewarded across the board. It's going to be divisive. Who am I to say who's a good teacher? If I put everyone here on performance-related pay I'd bust the bank. I'm not looking forward to administering this one."

Staff were equally sceptical. Alison Wright, who is in her second year of teaching, said: "It's too competitive when we should all be working together. It'll only cause resentment." Bob Webb, a colleague, agreed: "We'll need two staffrooms — one for the superstaff and one for everyone else. To find a realistic way of assessing performance we would need to take into account children's emotional needs and social needs, as well as academic requirements. But the Government will only look at the things that are easy to assess."

Although the staff felt they could trust their head to make assessments, they were less confident about the way the policy would work in other schools. But the principal concern was morale. Staff were unanimous that teaching has lost its prestige. Mr Webb said: "A pay rise is not the answer to recruitment problems. The problem is the de-professionalisation of teaching. No graduate wants to train for four years to have their working lives totally prescribed for them."

Rachel Heron, 27, issued the final riposte: "I don't see Chris Woodhead getting only a 3.6 per cent rise. Who does his appraisal?" Amongst staff at Marion Richardson there would be plenty of volunteers.

£10,000 for Irvine

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor will receive a rise of nearly £10,000, or close to six per cent, because of an anomaly which ensures he must be paid more than the Lord Chief Justice. His salary rises to £160,011 — making him not only the highest paid judge, but the highest paid Cabinet minister. Other Cabinet ministers are expected to be told to forgo their rise again.

'We can begin to pay off our loans'

By Ian Murray
Medical Correspondent

TRAINEE NURSE

LISA PHILLIPS, 24, is one of the 27,000 newly qualified nurses who will be taking home an extra £100 a month thanks to their 12 per cent rise.

She spent three years at Sheffield University studying for a diploma in nursing and works at the Radcliffe Infirmary in Oxford. She met and married her husband Andrew while they were both studying and he works in Oxford at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Hospital. They both earn £12,800 a year and take home between £800 and £900 a month depending on overtime.

"We will have £200 a month more in our pockets so we will begin to be able to pay off our student loans," she said. "Having the extra money makes me feel a bit more valued but if any of my friends said they were going into nursing I would tell them to think twice about it. After three years of training you still don't earn any more than a dustman.

"Even with this pay rise we shan't be well off. We aren't thinking of starting a family because we just can't afford it. We've got a cat and it's hard enough feeding that. My wardrobe is shabby and our car is falling apart.

"Not only is the money poor but working conditions are bad because we are so short-staffed. It is quite distressing on the ward. We are supposed to be a caring profession but there is no time to care.

"I am always considering other careers. People who were at school with me are earning a lot more and if I had known what I know now I might never have gone into nursing."



Phillips: money "makes me feel more valued"

'Nothing to stay in health service for'

By Ian Murray
Medical Correspondent

THE WARD SISTER

HEATHER DENNIS, 38, fulfilled her schoolgirl ambition when she was accepted for training as a nurse 20 years ago. She worked her way up to become a ward sister but after yesterday's pay deal, which will give her an extra 4.7 per cent, she can scarcely wait to leave the profession.

"The extra money won't be enough to pay for the increase in my childcare costs or for half a pack of nappies," she said. "Marks & Spencers is calling to me very loudly now to come and work one of their tills. They look after their staff well, give you reductions on food and don't make you work nights."

Ms Dennis still has great loyalty to St George's Hospital, South London, where she trained and has always worked. "It's a nice feeling of belonging and the job has a pension with it, but that is not everything," she said.

"On the money they pay me I can't see myself wanting to stay on. My little girl just cannot understand why I have to work on Christmas Day and after 20 years I am beginning to think the same thing." It is only because of the hospital crèche for her children — Andrew, 2½, and Chloe, 5 — that she is staying on working three days a week as a senior staff nurse for a take-home pay of around £750 a month. The crèche, however, costs her £306 a month and she has to work as an agency nurse to make ends meet. "Once my youngest is going to school I shall leave. If this is the only pay rise we can expect after 20 years of loyalty there is nothing to stay in the NHS for."



Dennis: intends to leave and work a shop till

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

	Current pay	Pay from September 1
Member of Parliament	£45,066	£47,008
Parliamentary Under Secretary	£69,339	£72,327
Minister of State	£77,047	£80,367

JUDGES

	Current pay	Pay from April 1
Lord Chancellor	£151,002	£160,011
Lord Chief Justice	£148, 502	£157,511
Law lords	£138,889	£147,214
Court of Appeal judges	£132,017	£139,931
High Court judges	£117,752	£123,787
Senior circuit judges	£96,214	£100,209
Circuit judges, sheriffs	£88,077	£92,810
Industrial tribunal chairmen	£84,752	£89,306
District judges	£70,820	£74,464

ARMED FORCES

The Army pay scales below are the same for the other Services

	Current pay	Pay from April 1
Chief of Defence Staff	£134,500	£140,000
General	£111,000	£107,000-£120,000
Lieutenant-General	£79,000	£77,625-£82,991
Major-General	£71,000	£68,600-£75,740
Brigadier	£65,291	£67,448
Lieutenant-Colonel	£45,767–£50,585	£47,366–£52,359
Major	£32,441–£38,865	£33,587–£40,216
Captain	£25,583–£29,744	£26,539–£30,832
Lieutenant	£20,068–£22,170	£20,805–£22,995
Sergeant	£19,115–£23,032	£19,779–£23,831
Corporal	£15,958–£20,911	£18,520–£21,648
Lance Corporal	£13,031–£18,714	£13,505–£19,392
Private	£10,720–£16,673	£11,111–£17,279

SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS

	April 1 1998	April 1 1999
Permanent Secretaries	£95,720–£164,310	£98,400–£168,910
Pay band 4	£54,230–£90,400	£55,750–£92,930
Pay band 1	£40,420–£63,490	£41,550–£65,270

NURSES

Grade	Current pay	Pay from April 1
Auxiliaries	£8,315–£10,170	£8,705–£10,650
Staff nurse	£12,855–£14,705	£14,440–£15,905
Senior staff nurse	£14,705–£17,030	£15,395–£17,830
Junior sister	£16,310–£19,985	£17,075–£20,925
Senior sister	£20,369–£21,115	£21,315–£22,105
Ward managers	£19,240–£22,255	£20,145–£23,300
Specialist nurses	£27,360–£28,160	£28,645–£29,485

TEACHERS

	Spine point	Current pay	Pay from April 1*
Newly qualified, lower than second-class honours	0	£13,362	£13,830
	1	£14,163	£14,658
Newly qualified, second-class honours or better	2	£15,012	£15,537
	3	£15,828	£16,383
	4	£16,689	£17,274
	5	£17,685	£18,303
	6	£18,750	£19,407
	7	£19,875	£20,571
	8	£21,066	£21,804
Top of scale if unpromoted	9	£22,410	£23,193
	10	£23,796	£24,630
	11	£25,215	£26,097
	12	£27,225	£28,179
	13	£29,040	£30,057
	14	£31,362	£32,460
	15	£32,769	£33,915
	16	£34,248	£35,448
	17	£35,787	£37,041

HEAD TEACHERS

Salaries until August 31

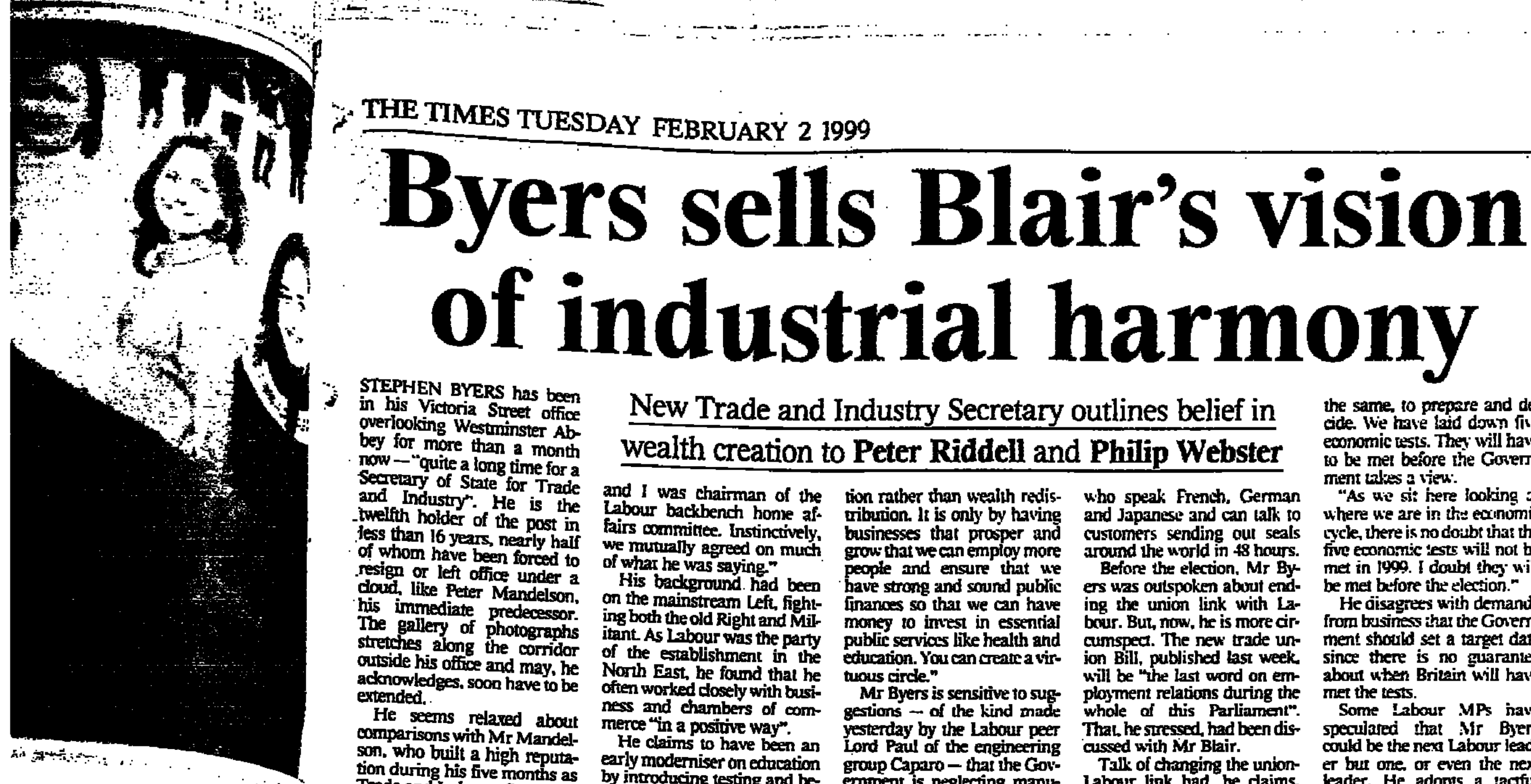
Group	Spine point	Head teachers	Spine point	Deputy head teachers
1 Small primary	3–15	£28,155–£33,516	1–8	£27,258–£30,381
2	8–22	£30,381–£36,939	2–10	£27,708–£31,287
4	23–37	£37,539–£47,076	8–20	£30,381–£35,748
6 Lge secondary	38–51	£48,114–£61,665	22-34	£36,939 – £44,841

Salaries for head teachers from September 1

Group	Spine point	Head teachers' salary
1 Small primary	1–9	£31,155–£37,947
2	3–12	£32,733–£40,848
3	6–15	£35,244–£43,971
4	9–18	£37,947–£47,322
5	13–22	£41,868–£52,194
6	16–26	£45,060–£57,570
7	19–30	£48,498–£63,498
8 Large secondary	23–34	£53,490–£70,002

DOCTORS

Grade	Current pay	Pay from April 1
House Officer	£25,512	£26,405
Senior House Officer	£35,773–£40,465	£37,024–£41,881
Specialist Registrar	£45,959	£47,568
Consultant	£59,040–£70,850	£61,605–£73,925
Consultant B award	£82,655	£86,245
Consultant A award	£100,370–£115,130	£104,730–£120,130
GP's average pay	£55,470	£59,715



Byers sells Blair's vision of industrial harmony

New Trade and Industry Secretary outlines belief in wealth creation to **Peter Riddell** and **Philip Webster**

STEPHEN BYERS has been in his Victoria Street office overlooking Westminster Abbey for more than a month now — "quite a long time for a Secretary of State for Trade and Industry". He is the twelfth holder of the post in less than 16 years, nearly half of whom have been forced to resign or left office under a cloud, like Peter Mandelson, his immediate predecessor. The gallery of photographs stretches along the corridor outside his office and may, he acknowledges, soon have to be extended.

He seems relaxed about comparisons with Mr Mandelson, who built a high reputation during his five months as Trade and Industry Secretary, both with leading industrialists, who felt he talked their language, and among civil servants, by raising the department's profile.

"There is only one Peter Mandelson and I am not Peter Mandelson. Peter did a great job. He gave the department a sense of purpose and direction," Mr Byers says. And, he carefully adds, "Margaret Beckett [in the post for 1997-98] also gave the department a good sense of cohesion." But then Mr Byers is a very careful politician, as befits the fastest rising member of the Cabinet. He has an open, engaging style, but is always cautious, never taking too many risks, whether over the single currency or by not spending money changing the modernist office decor he inherited.

> 'I don't believe that being pro-business is incompatible with social justice and fairness'

He presents himself as a team player, emphasising his close links with Gordon Brown (unlike the sometimes abrasive relationship that Mr Mandelson had). He is often seen as the leading younger Blairite. "Whether I have the ear of the Prime Minister or not is for other people to judge. I am accused of being an ultra-Blairite. I don't have a problem with people saying those things."

A former councillor on Tyneside, who entered the Commons in 1992, Mr Byers says: "I cannot say there was a day on which I became a Blairite. I found myself meeting Tony when he became an MP for the North East, and began working with him when he was Shadow Home Secretary and I was chairman of the Labour backbench home affairs committee. Instinctively, we mutually agreed on much of what he was saying."

His background had been on the mainstream Left, fighting both the old Right and Militant. As Labour was the party of the establishment in the North East, he found that he often worked closely with business and chambers of commerce "in a positive way".

He claims to have been an early moderniser on education by introducing testing and beginning to devolve budgets to head teachers. "My first big confrontation with the public sector unions was when I decided to allow up to £50 to head teachers to repair broken windows. The direct labour organisation got very agitated since they used to take six weeks."

Mr Byers will this evening take the first steps to establishing his distinctive identity when he addresses the Lord Mayor's trade and industry dinner at Mansion House. Don't expect dramatic changes. Indeed, he is at pains to stress the continuity with his predecessors, taking forward both the proposals on trade union law and the competitiveness White Paper of Mr Mandelson.

"We will be publishing an implementation plan in the middle of March so that people can see how we are carrying forward the details. There will be time commitments as well. This is the year of delivery and implementation."

Mr Byers will also be consulting on proposals to remove ministers from many competition and merger decisions. This, he accepted, was more complicated than just devolving responsibility for setting interest rates to the Bank of England. The Secretary of State would also have to remain involved in the defence and media sectors.

His main aim tonight will be to spell out what the new Labour approach to industry means. "I do not believe that being pro-business is incompatible with social justice and fairness. In the 1997 election we won by getting together a unique coalition of support in all regions. I want to represent a coalition of different interests. We can be pro-business and we can have minimum standards in the workplace for the individual. We can ensure individuals do not get exploited by ensuring they have rights as consumers.

"The big political message is that the real challenge for Labour is to recognise that we need to be about wealth creation rather than wealth redistribution. It is only by having businesses that prosper and grow that we can employ more people and ensure that we have strong and sound public finances so that we can have money to invest in essential public services like health and education. You can create a virtuous circle."

Mr Byers is sensitive to suggestions — of the kind made yesterday by the Labour peer Lord Paul of the engineering group Caparo — that the Government is neglecting manufacturing. "I was disappointed. The thrust of his argument is that we are making mistakes of the past. I hope implementation will convince him it is forward looking."

He points to a visit he made last Friday to a Rotherham factory that makes seals for mechanical pumps, a traditional activity but which uses computer design facilities. It has staff who speak French, German and Japanese and can talk to customers sending out seals around the world in 48 hours.

Before the election, Mr Byers was outspoken about ending the union link with Labour. But, now, he is more circumspect. The new trade union Bill, published last week, will be "the last word on employment relations during the whole of this Parliament". That, he stressed, had been discussed with Mr Blair.

Talk of changing the union-Labour link had, he claims, "gone totally off the agenda. We have got this new system in the party of decision-making at national and local policy forums which is working well."

Mr Byers is equally cautious about the single currency. The National Changeover Plan, due in a few weeks, will help to clarify government thinking. "The policy remains the same, to prepare and decide. We have laid down five economic tests. They will have to be met before the Government takes a view.

"As we sit here looking at where we are in the economic cycle, there is no doubt that the five economic tests will not be met in 1999. I doubt they will be met before the election."

He disagrees with demands from business that the Government should set a target date since there is no guarantee about when Britain will have met the tests.

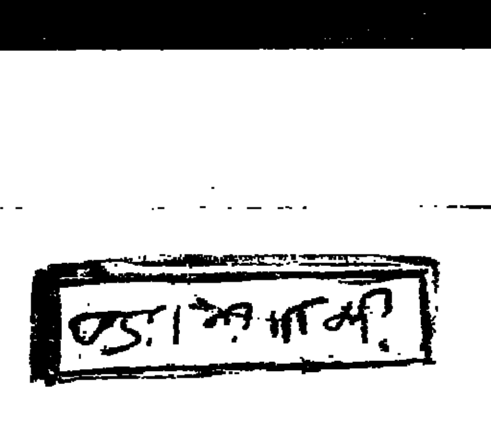
Some Labour MPs have speculated that Mr Byers could be the next Labour leader but one, or even the next leader. He adopts a tactful tone of embarrassed modesty. "I don't know who is coming up with these tips. I am privileged to be in the Cabinet and am very fortunate to be Secretary of State for Trade and Industry." And he knows that making his mark in the DTI is critical to advancing his suitably hidden ambitions.

Final say, page 26



PAUL ROGERS

Stephen Byers: he has an engaging and open style, but he is always cautious



Village mourns death of an innocent



Anthony Loyd reports from the village of Ujez on the murder of a schoolteacher in Kosovo's bloody civil war

THERE is a story of an innocent man who walked out to work one morning and never came home. It is very simple.

He was 37 years old and an elementary school teacher. His name was Gasper Karaqi, although the history of the war in Kosovo will never recall it. He was born in the village of Ujez but once I close my notebook that name too will be forgotten.

Last Friday he kissed his wife goodbye just after daybreak. They had been married for 18 years and they had no children. They were Catholic Albanians and so their childless state could have been a stigma in the remote rural communities of the South, but everyone in Ujez remarks only that he and his wife were very close. It is unusual for reticent, enclosed people to remark on a couple's relationship to foreigners, so I can imagine only that they must indeed loved one another.

He left to teach at the school in Bistraznj, another unremarkable hill village near Ujez. I saw him yesterday lying in an open coffin in the room in which he was born. The women of the village sat around him, his wife at one end with her hands on his forehead. He had the lean, ascetic face of an academic. Above him was a candle flanked by pictures of Christ wearing the crown of thorns and Mic Sokoli, a legendary Kosovan hero. Such is the tradition of death for Catholics here.

Unusually, the women did not weep until the coffin was carried out for burial. They had agreed among themselves that as a demonstration of love and pride for their teacher and relation they should contain their tears, so the atmosphere in that silent room was charged as if by electricity.

Nobody knows who killed him. When he did not return

> ‘Whatever happens in Paris, he is lost to us and shall not be returned’

from work that day his wife became frantic with worry. On Saturday some children on their way to school noticed the trail of blood leading away from the edge of a track.

The villagers followed it up a hillside and found Karaqi there. Someone had shot him once in the upper leg. He had crawled away into the snow and bled to death alone in a field below an Orthodox church. Serb police officers were mounting a follow-up operation after a gunbattle with KLA guerrillas in the area at the time, but the teacher could have been shot by either side.

The gravediggers toiled from dawn until midday to dig his grave. It was -15C (5F) yesterday, even before the wind chill, and beneath the snow the ground was like rock.

There were no uniforms among the mourners, no volleys, no guns, no glory. There was a column of sobbing children, much humility and much dignity.

In a clumsy and contrived way I asked the teacher's nephew what his expectations were of the peace talks at Rambouillet this week. He trustingly gave me his name, but asked me not to use it: he explained that everyone was frightened.

"This person who you see dead," he said slowly, "was a peace-loving man who contributed only to peace and goodness in our village. He was killed. Whatever happens in Paris, he is lost to us and shall not be returned."

As a story of the war this incident could mean nothing. But because it involves simple people, in some ways it means everything.

☐ **Airstrikes threat:** Nato is ready for airstrikes against the Serbs for any further massacres of ethnic Albanian civilians in Kosovo, even if the proposed peace talks get under way at Rambouillet, alliance diplomatic sources said yesterday (Michael Evans writes).

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that there were serious differences to settle before the warring sides in Kosovo could be brought to talk with any chance of success.

He added that no action would be taken against President Milosevic of Yugoslavia for not sending a negotiating team to the talks if the Kosovo Liberation Army also failed to attend.

While the Contact Group awaits the replies from Belgrade and Kosovo, one problem is knowing which of the KLA delegates truly represents the different factions of the organisation. Yesterday Yugoslavia called on the UN Security Council to try to prevent the threatened airstrikes.

YANNIS BEHRAKIS / REUTERS



Schoolchildren lead the funeral procession for Gasper Karaqi in Ujez, Kosovo yesterday. One of them carries a photograph of her teacher

Bonn faces general strike threat

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE Ford factory in Cologne ground to a halt yesterday as thousands of workers laid down their tools in the first strike of what promises to be a cold industrial winter.

Germany's engineering workers are pressing for a 6.5 per cent wage increase and the employers — car manufacturers, steel foundries and shipbuilders — are ready to offer 2 per cent at most.

"This time too many people have lost spending power," Jörg Baczynski, of the IG Metall union, which has a membership of more than three million, said. "We expect to bring a quarter of a million workers out this week."

So far the protests are "warning strikes" — day-long walkouts confined to chosen factories — aimed at putting pressure on the employer. But if there is no breakthrough in negotiations by next week, the union says it will call a national strike. That would hurt the country's flagging economic recovery but, more important perhaps, it would derail the Government's attempts to put together an "alliance for jobs", an across-the-board deal between employers, unions and the Government.

The workers are digging in for a long fight. Union leaders have already announced the end of the "age of wage restraint" and have made clear that they expect the Social Democrat-led Government to be on their side.

They were encouraged initially when Oskar Lafontaine, the Finance Minister, said that economic growth should come from a boost in the domestic demand. The Government, however, is proving to be as nervous as the employers about large wage increases this year.

"We rolled up our sleeves and have held back for years — now we expect a fair share in this economic recovery," said Harald Schartau, the main union negotiator for North Rhine Westphalia. He was speaking outside the Ford works where the assembled fitters and shop-floor workers blew whistles, waved red banners and chanted: "6.5 per cent — and not a pfennig less."

Some 700 factories are likely to be drawn into the protests this week. More disturbing for the Government is the threat of the main public service unions to join the private sector in a national strike if there is no satisfactory deal.

Economists say wage deals of under 5 per cent will be the best outcome. The mood in Cologne yesterday suggested, however, that workers would be unhappy with anything less than 5 per cent.



Boris Yeltsin at his 68th birthday celebration

Leaders toast Yeltsin on his birthday

Moscow: President Yeltsin celebrated his 68th birthday yesterday with champagne and cake two days after leaving hospital where he was treated for a bleeding ulcer (Alice Lagnado writes).

He was joined at a health resort by Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister, Patriarch Aleksi II, head of the Russian Orthodox Church, and Nikolai Bordyuzha, the Kremlin chief of staff.

Olympics chief tries to parry sword gift claim

FROM JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT, IN LAUSANNE

THE beleaguered head of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, yesterday denied having received an $18,000 (£11,000) samurai sword from the Governor of Nagano one month before it was awarded the right to host the 1998 Winter Olympics.

In an attempt to play down the allegations of widespread corruption within the IOC, which are threatening to force him from office, Señor Samaranch insisted that there was no official record of the sword, and that he had no recollection of the alleged gift.

A statement that was issued yesterday in Lausanne said: "The IOC has checked all of its records, conferred with the IOC president, his translator and others who were with him on the trip in question, and thoroughly checked the archives and the records of the Olympic museum."

Goro Yoshimura, the Governor of Nagano, and the former head of the city's bidding committee, has insisted that the sword was given to Señor Samaranch by a businessman. The newspaper *Asahi* last week said that the Nagano bidding committee gave Señor Samaranch the sword and a kimono in May 1991, because they wanted him to know more about Japanese culture.

Señor Samaranch rejected accusations yesterday that he had lived luxuriously and benefited personally during his 19 years as IOC president.

In his first official statement on the allegations since the "votes for favours" scandal broke last month, Señor Samaranch said that he had asked several years ago that people should stop referring to him as "Excellency", a title he was given when he was Spain's Ambassador to Mongolia and the Soviet Union during the 1970s.

The IOC issued what it described as a 12-point "correction of media inaccuracies" to try to limit the damage caused by worldwide calls for Señor Samaranch to step down. This follows four IOC members resigning and five being recommended for expulsion because they accepted inducements from Salt Lake City before the Americans won the vote to stage the 2002 Winter Olympics. The IOC, which today will start hosting a three-day conference on doping in sport, pointed out that its president does not draw a salary.

It also stated that he accepts gifts on behalf of the organisation. These are either displayed in the Olympic museum or placed into storage. "The president also presents many gifts to dignitaries and others as an international gesture of goodwill on behalf of the IOC."

The alleged gift of the sword is the centre of an investigation into whether money or favours were given to any IOC members in an effort to persuade them to vote for the city as host. Crucial records detailing some of the finances have been destroyed.

The IOC executive board said yesterday that it had asked all national olympic committees, including Britain's, for "candid and complete" details of recent bids for the Games.

Cinema is blessed by 'Pope's Oscars'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE Pope, who returned at the weekend from a strenuous trip to Mexico and the United States, has a secret source of relaxation: the Vatican's collection of more than 6,000 films, which he can enjoy in his private cinema.

John Paul II has approved a list of films deemed suitable for viewing by the faithful, including Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey*, Richard Attenborough's *Gandhi*, and Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, as well as films with a biblical theme such as Pasolini's *The Gospel According to St Matthew*.

In his youth in Poland, the Pope, 78, was an actor and playwright as well as a priest. The disclosure that he is also a film buff follows the publicity given to the private screening last month of Roberto Benigni's *Life is Beautiful* (La Vita e Bella) in the Vatican cinema.

According to Benigni, the Pope was "both moved and amused" by the film, in which Benigni plays an Italian Jewish concentration camp inmate who tries to protect his small son from the horrors of the Nazi gas chambers by pretending it is "all a game".

The film has offended some Jewish groups on the ground that "the Holocaust is not a laughing matter". But Benigni said the pontiff remarked that the film showed "that humanity can be found even in the most terrible of places".

The Vatican cinema has been created in a deconsecrated church in the Palazzo San Carlo, the headquarters of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, led by Archbishop John Foley of the United States, which oversees Vatican policy on the mass media.

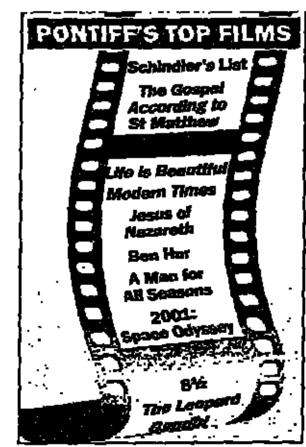
The Pope "is often shown new films before their public release", an insider said. As a polyglot he can watch them in their original language.

At the weekend, *La Repubblica* published a list of 45 Vatican-sanctioned films, dubbed "the Pope's Oscars". The list includes few comedies, apart from Chaplin's *Modern Times*.

It is dominated by films with a religious theme, such as Zeffirelli's *Jesus of Nazareth*. But the religious section also includes Pasolini's *St Matthew*, once frowned on for its depiction of Jesus as a quasi-Marxist revoloutionary; William Wyler's *Ben Hur*; and Fred Zinnemann's *A Man for All Seasons*.

Eyebrows were also raised by the inclusion under "general" of *2001*, in which astronauts encounter the divine in the form of a black monolith; Fellini's *8½*, *La Strada* and *Amarcord*; Bergman's mildly erotic *Wild Strawberries*; W. F. Murnau's *Nosferatu*; and Visconti's *The Leopard*.

PONTIFF'S TOP FILMS



Family's Nazi past thwarts art claim

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

Marienburg Castle, the royal couple's likely home

PRINCE Ernst August of Hanover, Germany's senior aristocrat, is being thwarted in his attempts to reclaim from the state family-owned Old Masters and other works of art after claims that his grandfather profited from Nazi actions against Jews.

The Hanoverian Prince, whose titles include Prince of Britain and Ireland and Duke of Cumberland, recently married Princess Caroline of Monaco and is anxious to decorate their palace in the grand ancestral style.

The Prince has an outstanding claim on Blankenburg Castle, houses in the town of Blankenburg, a convent and a large acreage of land in the region. A court in Magdeburg will soon rule on their restitution. But the main German residence of the newly married couple is likely to be in the west, in Marienburg Castle outside Hanover.

More than 200 paintings are involved in the Prince's efforts to regain family works of art: 148 antiques and 46 valuable decorated stoves: all part of Blankenburg Castle.

Prince Ernst August's grandfather, also called Ernst August, fled the castle and moved westwards as the Soviet Army advanced into Germany towards the end of the war.

The castle was confiscated by the Communist authorities and the works of art were taken over by the state of Saxony-Anhalt which is reluctant to give them back. "It would be a bad thing if paintings now disappeared into private hands away from public view," Bianca Kachel, a Social Democratic deputy, who is calling for a debate on the issue in the regional parliament, said.

Legally, the Prince, 44, seems to be in a strong position: expropriated valuables, unlike landed property, are usually returned to former owners promptly once the courts have established ownership. But an exception is made for former Nazis, and that is the rub. Prince Ernst August's grandfather, who was married to Viktoria Luisa, daughter of the last Kaiser, profited from his Nazi connections.

According to research published yesterday, the Prince benefited from the expulsion of Jews from the management of a private bank in Munich and a building company in Vienna.

The Aufhäuser bank in Munich was established in 1870 by the German-Jewish Aufhäuser family. In 1933 storm troopers started to scare away customers, in 1935 Jewish directors were forced to sell their shares to non-Jews and in 1938 the head of the bank, Martin Aufhäuser, was taken to Dachau.

A few days later, wearing concentration camp uniform, he was brought back to the bank where, under the gaze of the Gestapo, he signed approval for a new board. The new partners included Prince Ernst August. The House of Hanover kept its shares in the bank until the 1980s.

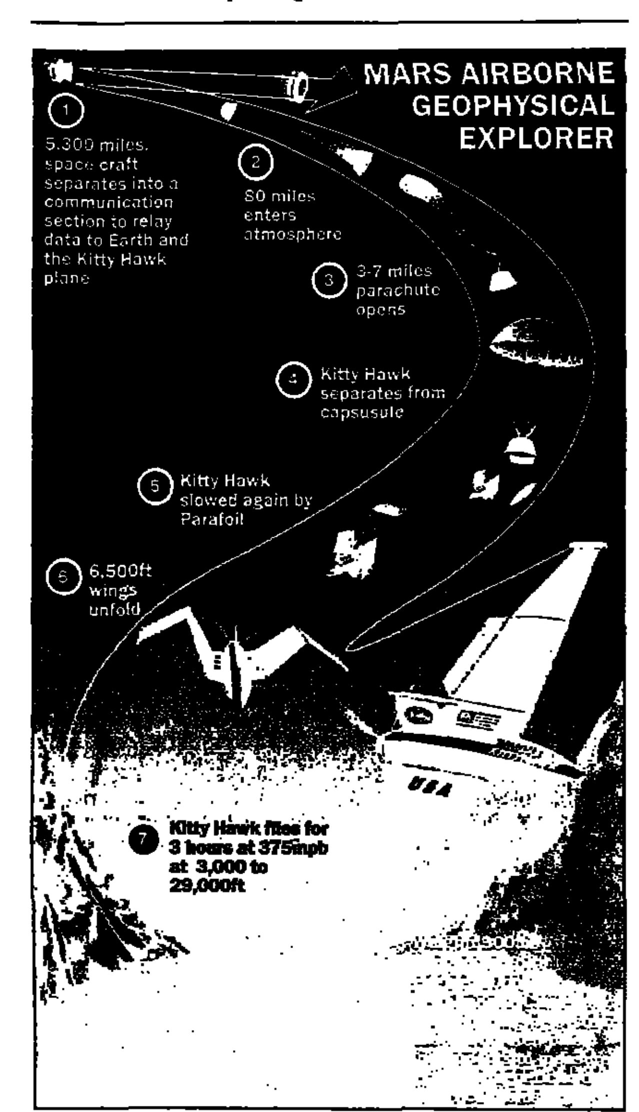
FABIAN BIMMER / AP


Prince Ernst August and Princess Caroline of Monaco who want to decorate their palace in the grand style

A similar process ensured that Prince Ernst August became a member of the Porr construction company board in Vienna. Executives were forced out, one of them because he had a Jewish wife. The 42.7 per cent share of the firm owned by Jews passed to the House of Hanover.

The company employed thousands of slave labourers in southeastern Europe. The present Prince sold the family's tranche of shares in 1991-92.

German business, nervous about legal class actions in the United States, is anxious to reach a quick settlement and fend off bad publicity.



Nasa plans Mars trip in honour of Wright brothers

Robot aircraft must have giant wings but fit in small box, writes Nigel Hawkes

AMERICAN space engineers plan to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first flight by the Wright brothers by launching a robot aircraft to fly through the Martian atmosphere in 2003.

The announcement of the $40 million (£24 million) project was expected yesterday from the US space agency, Nasa, as part of its budget request for 2000.

Nasa will solicit bids from industry and its own centres to design and build a plane that fits into a container no bigger than a computer terminal but with a wingspan large enough to fly in the thin Martian atmosphere.

The plan is to launch the aircraft as part of a French payload to Mars on an Ariane 5 rocket. "You're going to need one heck of a wingspan," Nasa engineer Ed Weiler told *USA Today*. "It's going to look like all wings, but it still has to fold up inside that small box."

One design, called *Kitty Hawk* after the place in North Carolina where Wilbur and Orville Wright made the first powered flight, already exists. With a 32-ft wingspan and a ten-horsepower engine, it is designed to soar for three hours making observations over the Valles Marineris, a spectacular Martian canyon covering 1,100 miles, before running out of fuel and crashing to the surface.

The Martian atmosphere, 95 per cent carbon dioxide, is less than one-hundredth as dense as the Earth's, but gravity is only a third of ours. Flying in that air would be equivalent to flying at 80,000ft above the Earth — difficult but not impossible, according to Gary Lemke, of Nasa's Ames Research Centre.

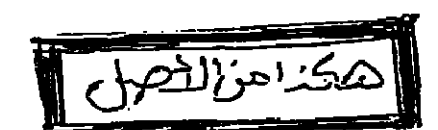
"There currently aren't any unclassified programmes that do that," Dr Lemke said, "but there are airplanes designed to do that."

Kitty Hawk would enter the Martian atmosphere inside a heat-resistant shell which would drop off at a height of 6,500ft, allowing the aircraft's wings to unfold. The engine, which would drive a "pusher" propeller, would be fuelled by hydrazine propellant and would be capable of accelerating *Kitty Hawk* to its cruising speed of 375mph.

All manoeuvres would have to be pre-programmed before launch, because the time taken for commands to be sent to Mars — eight minutes — preclude direct control from Earth. A camera and other instruments would be used to measure the chemical composition of Mars.

Similar readings have been made by satellite, and on the Martian surface, but both have drawbacks. Satellite resolution is lower, while ground-based exploration is limited in area. The Valles Marineris is as wide as the continental United States and offers, according to Dr Michael Malin, "a four-dimensional window through which we can view ancient and once deeply buried rock" as well as erosion and deposition patterns.

The images should be pinsharp, with objects as small as a few inches wide detectable. Other instruments could offer clues as to whether water still exists on Mars.



US plans force to beat germ terrorists

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Pentagon is seeking controversial new powers for the American military on US soil in the event of a biological or chemical attack by terrorists.

William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, is asking for presidential approval for a task force, under a two-star general or admiral, to meet the growing terrorist threat in what he has called a "grave new world." The plan has alarmed civil libertarians by giving the military a role in the US in spite of the Posse Comitatus Act, passed after the Civil War, to bar federal troops from domestic policing.

John Hamre, the Deputy Defence Secretary, said that the military would not get involved in law enforcement, and that ultimate authority would remain in civilian hands.

The Pentagon plans to spend $250 million (£152 million) over six years to train ten 14-person National Guard units, called Rapid Assistance and Initial Detection System Teams (Raids), to react to a biological or chemical attack anywhere in the country in less than four hours.

Hotel besieged by Monica fan club

The Naked Cowboy joins media in pilgrimage to the Mayflower, Damian Whitworth writes

RAY BALKMAN loves the Monica Lewinsky scandal. He is obsessed with it. More to the point, one suspects, he is obsessed with Monica Lewinsky. There he was yesterday outside the Mayflower Hotel where Ms Lewinsky's version of the story of sex and lies was being videotaped for the gratification of senators. "I just came to see Monica," he said. "She's going to be one of the most famous women in our history."

That might be true, but Ms Lewinsky was nowhere in sight yesterday. She had been ensconced in the hotel since the previous day.

It emerged that Mr Balkman had been there to see her enter the hotel — hat pulled down, carrying two shopping bags — on Sunday. And he had been outside the hotel last week when she came to meet prosecutors.

"Oh, I've seen her a dozen times," he said proudly. One might be tempted to label Mr Balkman a pervert — if one had not been there oneself, straining for a glimpse of the former White House trainee across 100 yards of car park. The siege of the Mayflower Hotel on Connecticut Avenue, a thong's throw from the White House, does not have the same carnival atmosphere that had defined Monica Beach, as the strip of Pennsylvania Avenue outside the courthouse became known during Ms Lewinsky's grand jury testimony last year. In the hot summer, there was a permanent encampment there waiting for witnesses called to testify before Kenneth Starr's grand jury. There were hordes of tourists, several dozen television trucks and news anchors developing dark tans.

The cameramen gathered this time are less jolly. They have several entrances to watch and wear ski coats against the cold. The only cabaret yesterday was a man from Cincinatti who called himself "The Naked Cowboy" and strode up and down the street wearing nothing but a pair of tight briefs, cowboy boots and hat, playing the guitar.

Inside, Ms Lewinsky was being questioned in a suite by Ed Bryant, one of the House of Representatives' prosecutors, and Nicole Seligman and Cheryl Mills, the two women lawyers representing Mr Clinton. Other members of both teams were in attendance and Mike DeWine, a Republican senator, and his Democratic colleague, Patrick Leahy, refereed. Security in the hotel was tight amid reports that one news organisation had tried to hire the room next door.

Last week it was a lot more lax. When *The Times* called the hotel to ask if Ms Lewinsky had left, the receptionist had said cheerfully: "No, I'll put you through to the room." The phone rang once, which was long enough for the heart to beat like a drum and all the questions one might want to ask Ms Lewinsky to race through the mind.

"Er, actually, I'm sorry," said the receptionist, coming back on line after realising her mistake. "She's not here. Goodbye."

The overwhelming feeling yesterday — of Mr Balkman, his fellow fans and the massed ranks of the media — was that the end is finally near. If Ms Lewinsky is not called to testify in person it would surprise no one if she never set foot in Washington again.

"This could be the last time," said Mr Balkman, mournfully.

Lewinsky questioned

Washington: Monica Lewinsky spent yesterday shut in a hotel room with a video camera rolling as she answered questions from prosecutors and defence lawyers in the impeachment trial of President Clinton (Damian Whitworth writes).

The deposition will be played to senators in private today before they decide if portions should be played publicly at the trial or if Ms Lewinsky should be called to give live testimony. The questioning at Washington's Mayflower Hotel was set to last eight hours.



Lewinsky: a deposition given on video camera



JAMAL WILSON / REUTERS

Cheryl Mills and Nicole Seligman, White House lawyers, arrive at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington yesterday with David Kendall, President Clinton's lawyer

WORLD IN BRIEF

Mir to shed new light on Europe

Moscow: The crew of the Russian Mir space station will conduct a spectacular experiment this week with a space mirror that will send a beam of reflected sunlight flashing over Earth. The *Znamya* (Banner) experiment, which is scheduled for Thursday, envisages unfolding a space mirror made of a membrane covered by a metal layer. In theory, the 83 ft diameter mirror would work like the moon, reflecting sunlight on to Europe and North America, said Valeri Lyndin, a Mission Control spokesman. The mirror would serve as a prototype for even larger models that may be used to illuminate sun-starved northern cities. *(AP)*

Army to combat Mafia

Rome: The Italian Army is returning to Sicily to help fight the Mafia less than a year after being withdrawn. Massimo D'Alema, the Prime Minister, said he had asked that 500 troops be deployed on the island to guard public buildings, thus freeing police to pursue criminals. He was speaking at a ceremony in Vittoria, Sicily, where five people were murdered last month. *(AP)*

Lions kill four refugees

Mogadishu: At least four people were killed and an undetermined number were wounded when several lions attacked a camp for people displaced by famine in western Somalia. The attack, in which a woman, her daughter and two elderly men died, occurred on Sunday in the village of El-Bardeh near the border with Ethiopia. *(AP)*

Teachers' hard lesson

Shanghai: Confidence tricksters lured leaders from more than 40 Chinese universities to a bogus education conference in Guangzhou and disappeared with at least £8,900 of their cash, the *Shanghai Express* reported. A man and two female assistants collected money for hotel rooms and air fares from each participant. But the next morning the "organisers" had vanished. *(AFP)*

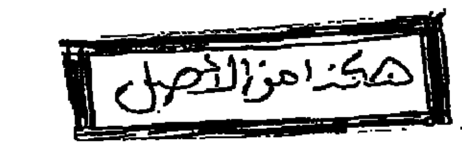
Gibraltar 'disgrace'



Madrid: Abel Matutes, Spain's Foreign Minister, right, has called British rule of Gibraltar out of date, an "anachronism" and a "disgrace". Madrid has taken measures to "lay the groundwork for the disappearance of the last colony in Europe", he said, and for this reason Spain was refusing to enter the current debate over fishing rights claimed by Gibraltar. *(AFP)*

French pianist dies at 93

Paris: The French musician Jeanne-Marie Darre, once hailed by American music critics as "the grande dame" of the piano, has died aged 93 at her home at Port Marly, the Conservatory of Paris said. At her first professional concert, aged 21, she performed all five of Saint-Saens's piano concertos — a psychologically and physically demanding feat. *(AP)*



Israel accuses Syria of threat to Jordan

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

ISRAEL has accused the radical regime in Syria of seeking to destabilise neighbouring Jordan whose absent ruler, King Hussein, today undergoes a decisive bone marrow transplant that doctors say has only a 15 per cent chance of saving his life.

"Syria and others are trying to exploit the situation in Jordan following the appointment of Prince Abdullah as Crown Prince in a bid to harm the unity of the country," David Bar-Illan, the communications director for the Israeli Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, told Israel radio.

The warning coincided with intelligence assessments that have been drawn up by Western embassies in Amman. The assessments conclude that Syria is the outside force most likely to try to foment trouble inside Jordan, whose population is divided precariously between Palestinians and East Bank Arabs with a mainly tribal background.

Syria's underlying ambition is thought to be to transform Jordan, a country of only 4.6 million people, into a client state like Lebanon, where Syrian troops originally entered at the end of the civil war in the mid-1970s and have never left.

"Israel is following the situation in Jordan closely, particularly everything concerning the activity of Syria in the country," added Mr Bar-Illan. "History in the region has shown that Syrians have all sorts of territorial ambitions against Jordan."

It is widely believed that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of Syrian agents operating inside Jordan. The Damascus regime of President Assad is the only Arab Government of note not to have given at least indirect backing to Prince Abdullah's appointment to replace Prince Hassan as heir apparent.

In 1970, during the Black September Palestinian uprising in Jordan in which troops loyal to King Hussein fought fierce battles with Palestinian guerrillas under the leadership of Yassir Arafat, Syrian forces moved to the Jordanian border.

The Syrian forces were then only kept at bay by manoeuvres by the Israeli defence forces, although Israel and Jordan were technically at war, a situation that existed until 1994.

Referring to the 1970 crisis involving Syria, Mr Bar-Illan said: "We hope that there will be no such manifestation at this time, but we are obviously concerned with the integrity of Jordan."

Jordanian officials attribute at least two of the dozen foiled assassination attempts made against King Hussein to Syrian intelligence, one with a missile fired at his plane and the other a car bomb.

Officials have been reluctant to speak openly about any new threat to the politically untried Crown Prince, but internal security since his appointment a week ago has been considerably tightened.

In the past, Palestinian opposition groups based in Damascus, often with Iranian backing, have attempted to attack Israeli tourists in Jordan. The Jordanians also believe there have been hundreds of incidents of arms smuggling from Syria into Jordan in recent years whose purpose is not clear.

Doctors following King Hussein's recurrence of lymphatic cancer, which forced him to return urgently to the Mayo Clinic in the US last week, claimed that today's transplant of bone marrow from his sister, Princess Basma, will be decisive in deciding his fate.

The international Arabic daily *Al-Hayat* quoted medical sources as saying that the 63-year-old monarch's chances for recovery are no more than 15 per cent.

"There is no possible third result for the operation; either it saves him or it does not," the sources said.

However, Marwan Moasher, the Jordanian Ambassador to the US, said yesterday that the King's health had improved in the days leading up to the transplant operation.

"The King is medically much better and his morale is very high," he said.

Meanwhile, two London newspapers, *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, which both contained in-depth articles about the bitter feuding inside the Royal Family, were barred from entering the country yesterday. A similar ban was imposed on *The Times* last Wednesday.

> 'There is no possible third result for the operation; either it saves the King or it does not'

TURKEY
SYRIA
LEBANON
IRAQ
ISRAEL
200 miles
Amman
EGYPT
JORDAN
SAUDI ARABIA



Two Israeli intelligence agents are led from a Cyprus court yesterday after being jailed for three years each for approaching a prohibited military zone (Michael Theodoulou writes). Espionage charges were dropped in a plea-bargain deal. The sentence came despite pressure from Israel for their release. Udi Argov, 37, above left, and Igal Damary, 49, right, were also jailed for six months concurrently for possessing radio scanning equipment without a licence. Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, said Israel would do everything to bring them home "in accordance with the laws of Cyprus". The men's lawyers had said they were not spying on Cyprus at the time of their arrest in November, but were on the island as lookouts during a secret meeting of informants who had collected intelligence about international terrorists plotting attacks in Israel. But Judge George Aresti said in the Larnaca court that the defence had not been prepared to offer any evidence to support that explanation.

Cyprus jails two Mossad agents

Saddam offers bounty for allied pilots

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

A BOUNTY has been been put on the heads of British and American pilots enforcing the no-fly zones over Iraq.

The move by President Saddam Hussein echoes an offer made during the 1991 Gulf War when captured allied aircrew were paraded on state television.

Five million dinars (£1,700) are offered to anyone who arrests an allied pilot; £9,000 to anyone who shoots down an enemy aircraft and £3,000 to anyone who destroys a missile. The sums represent a fortune in a country where a soldier earns £3 a month.

However, Iraq's air defence system, weakened by years of sanctions and weeks of clashes with allied forces, is a shadow of the threat it was during the Gulf War when several British and American pilots and crew members were arrested. They were shown, battered and bruised, on television in footage that caused revulsion outside Iraq.

The no-fly zones were established after the Gulf War, ostensibly to shield the Kurdish and Shia communities from Saddam's forces: but they have assumed a new importance in containing the Iraqi leader after the departure of United Nations weapons inspectors. Saddam insists that the no-fly restrictions violate Iraqi sovereignty and flout international law.

Baghdad has also scoffed at Washington's attempts to overthrow Saddam by offering £60 million in military and other aid to Iraqi opposition groups. "These people, who are failures, are talking with other people who are failures. We feel that we are strong because of the support of our people," Hameed Saeed, an Information Ministry official, said.

He was referring to tours of the Gulf by senior American officials who have been rallying opposition to Saddam. State-run Iraqi newspapers scorned their "mission impossible". American-backed dissidents were nothing more than "stuffed horses and old mules, only good enough to stand outside entrances of embassies in Western capitals", said *Al-Thawra* newspaper.

Netanyahu condemned for 'fascist' slogan



Netanyahu: hardline slogan for tough party

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

THE Israeli Prime Minister caused an uproar yesterday with his election slogan, "a strong leader for a strong people", which critics said echoed Nazi and fascist propaganda.

Avraham Burg, chairman of the Jewish Agency and a candidate for the Opposition Labour Party, appealed to Binyamin Netanyahu to drop the slogan. He said it reminded many people of the Nazi party slogan and insulted Holocaust survivors and their families. "The sound of 'a strong leader, a strong people' is coming directly from the conceptual framework of the Third Reich of 50 to 60 years ago," he said.

Shlomo Ben-Ami, another Labour personality, accused Mr Netanyahu of raising the "spectre of fascism". Dan Meridor, who quit Mr Netanyahu's Cabinet to join a new centrist party, said the Likud slogan for the May 17 election was "not suitable for democratic governments". Professor Michael Harsegor, of Tel Aviv University, said: "It has no place in the free world. It is used only in dictatorships."

"The things that Likud is saying now, Franco's Spaniards, and Mussolini's Italians said in the past. Only Franco had a little more shame and spoke only of a 'large and strong Spain' without accounting for his own merits. The same thing was done by dictators in Eastern Europe in the 1950s." Professor Zeev Sternhall, of Jerusalem's Hebrew University, said he was unnerved by the Likud slogan. "This slogan is nauseating .... Strong leadership is not perceived as determined or brave, rather, it is perceived as authoritative and dismissive of the democratic order."

But a defiant Mr Netanyahu, who faces a tight contest against Ehud Barak, the Labour leader, and Yitzhak Mordechai, head of a new centrist party, defended the slogan. He said the words highlighted Likud's hardline approach in dealing with the Palestinians. Labour, he said, would cave into their demands.

☐ **Rafah:** Three fugitives from Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, were arrested after two gunfights in the Gaza Strip. In the first incident they killed a Palestinian security agent before fleeing in a car which ran over an eight-year-old girl who died of her injuries. The three were held hours later after another battle with security forces. *(AP)*

Dutch deny asylum to Kurdish fugitive

BY MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ABDULLAH OCALAN, the Kurdish rebel leader, is believed to have flown to Athens yesterday in a desperate attempt to find refuge after being refused permission to land at Rotterdam.

Greece denied that the leader of the terrorist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) was at the airport, but Turkey insisted that he flew there in a private plane. Last month he fled from Italy to an unknown destination amid rumours that he was seeking refuge in Russia.

The Dutch turned away Mr Ocalan yesterday morning as an "undesirable". Despite Ankara's insistence that the plane arrived in Athens, a Greek spokesman categorically denied he was on Greek soil.

Loggers 'risk spreading African killer viruses'

BY SAM KILEY AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

EUROPEAN logging companies involved in the uncontrolled exploitation of Africa's rainforests could accidentally unleash more deadly viruses from the jungle and destroy mankind's ability to fight them, conservationists said yesterday after the source of HIV-1 was traced to chimpanzees in Central Africa.

The threat of viruses, such as HIV, which causes Aids, and Ebola, which turns its victims' internal organs to pulp, spreading from infected animals has recently inspired films such as *Outbreak*, starring Dustin Hoffman.



Dustin Hoffmann and Cuba Gooding Jr in a scene from *Outbreak*, which tells of a deadly virus epidemic

But after the findings of an international team of scientists, published in *Nature* magazine tomorrow, which show that HIV-1 was spread into the world from chimpanzees via people who hunted and ate them, the threat of more pandemics has become a frightening reality. So far, outbreaks of Ebola and its related diseases have been contained by doctors and scientists who have sealed off large areas of the tropical forests.

But Friends of the Earth and the Rainforest Foundation gave warnings yesterday that the pace of the destruction of the African rainforests by logging companies and their employees, who poach hundreds of tonnes of primate meat every year, means that future mass infections would be difficult to control.

Monkey meat has been a source of protein for hunter-gatherer communities living alongside the forests for decades. But, in the last few years, logging company employees have been encouraged by their bosses to find their own food while working in West Africa.

"It's a lot easier to give the employee a shotgun and tell him to go and shoot his own dinner than it is to organise food for him deep inside the rainforest," said Simon Counsell, a bio-diversity expert at the Rainforest Foundation.

"In many many cases it is foreign aid to African countries which is used to build roads through the forests which are then used by the loggers and the poachers. Then the meat is brought back into the cities, where it is considered a delicacy and sold by the tonne," he said.

In Kinshasa and Brazzaville, chimpanzees are sold live, or crucified and smoked. Other ape meats include the endangered lowland and silver-backed gorillas which are poached at a rate of 600 a year, while 300 chimpanzees, numbering only 250,000 around the world, are killed each year in West Africa.

"It is ironic that both the cause and the potential cure for HIV-1 has been almost sitting under our noses for years in the chimpanzees of Central Africa. But this discovery shows how we are increasing the chances of exposure to similar diseases. With the widespread destruction of the forests, however, we have less and less chance of finding cures," said Sarah Tyack, the forests campaign officer for Friends of the Earth.

Poor African countries unable to sell agricultural products in Europe have little choice but to allow the exploitation of their forests, even those officially protected as national parks.

"How will the richer countries of the world, who buy African timber, compensate the producers for protecting this massive resource of medicinal plants, and dangerous diseases?" Mr Counsell said.

"We have, as yet, no idea of the potential benefits to mankind in those forests, and the potential dangers. We should surely, then, protect them," he added.

Leading article, page 17

Pro-Jakarta gangs seek weapons

FROM DAVID WATTS ASIA EDITOR

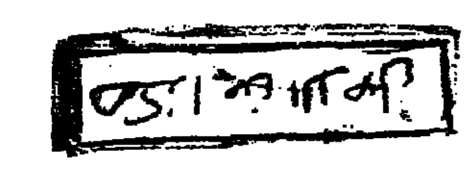
HUNDREDS of demonstrators seeking independence for East Timor marched yesterday on the capital, Dili, to protest against the arming of pro-Indonesian gangs accused of killing young men who refuse to join them.

The protesters wheeled through the town on motorbikes and lorries shouting "Viva Timor Leste", reinforcing the fears of integrationist militiamen. The pro-Jakarta activists will fly to the Indonesian capital today to appeal to General Wiranto, the armed forces' commander, for weaponry to defend themselves as the situation worsens.

The sudden Indonesian announcement that it is ready to abandon a 23-year stand and consider independence for the territory has led to clashes between rival groups and at least six people have been killed in the past week alone.

Even Xanana Gusmão, the guerrilla leader held in Jakarta's Cipinang jail for rebellion, wants a gradual process through autonomy to independence, but he admits that the majority of East Timorese want instant freedom. The Government has confirmed it will put Gusmão under house arrest to serve the balance of his 20-year sentence.

The softening of Jakarta's stance on East Timor seems to be based on two factors: firstly, the recognition that retention of the territory in the face of international opposition has brought no benefits: and secondly, annoyance among Muslims that a largely Roman Catholic territory is receiving disproportionate funding.



هكذا من الاصل

'I don't feel like me. I'm scared'

Psychologist Lauren Slater has taken Prozac for ten years. In the first extract from her diary, she describes its extraordinary effects

30 capsules No 3105

Life with **PROZAC**

I had never heard of Prozac. It was 1988, the drug had just been released. I was one of the first to take it and, though I didn't know it, one of the first to stay on it for ten years.

Even then the Prozac doctor was busy, seeing 30, 40, 50 patients a day. "What is this stuff?" I asked. I heard my voice repeat itself in my ears, as so many sounds seemed to do: the screech of brakes, birdsong nipping at my brain.

"Fluoxetine hydrochloride." He said its chemical structure was similar to that of other medications I'd tried, but its action on the brain chemical serotonin made it a finer drug. He told me about serotonin's role in obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), the most recent of my many ills — a need to touch, count, check and tap over and over.

The doctor had my chart before him, thick as a phonebook: a diagnosis of borderline personality disorder since 19; hospitalisations in 1977, 1979, 1983, 1984, 1985 for depression and anxiety-related problems; poor response to medication.

I was six or so when I first felt the dwindling that is depression. I was on the porch; it was summer. From inside the house I heard my mother's heels tapping on the wood of our foyer floor. I was unable to reach her; maybe she moved too fast, or was too sad. She was stiff, a lacquered lady. Because I couldn't feel her, I couldn't feel myself.

People want to know about big things. Did she pierce you, did dishes crash down? But these are not the events memory always makes as its markers. We never got along. What I recall most is the day I saw her ironing my clothes. Why, when we had three housekeepers and a butler, she was ironing my clothes I do not know. She lowered the hot block and moved with fast, angry strokes, and I felt, for the first time, not only how intensely but how erotically she wanted to erase me.

Later that day I bought a chocolate baby. I placed it on my tongue. I felt it move down my throat, into my stomach. When it mixed, at last, with my blood, the baby turned blue. At night, while on the floor below me my mother paced, I heard the baby turn and sometimes cry. I talked to it, and it could talk to me. Later I populated my innards with more figurative people, but this was the first.

> It was as if a piano tuner had tweaked my ivory bones

At first I didn't think much of Prozac. I was still obsessive: touching, tapping, counting my way through the day. But I was sleeping better, although my dreams were filled with images of tidal pools and the sound of shouts.

Then, five days after I'd started Prozac, I opened my eyes at 8am. For the first time in months I had had a seamless eight hours' sleep. I looked at my hand. It was the same. The sink still dripped. The grass moved against my window. All the same, all different. What was it?

A piano tuner used to come to our house when I was young. The piano never looked any different after he'd worked on it, but when I pressed a C key or F minor, the note sprung out richer. This was what was different. It was as though I'd been visited by a piano tuner who had crept into my flat at night and tweaked the ivory bones of my body. Now the same notes, but mellower, fuller, sprang out.

Tempo, tone were different. Doctors say psychotropic drugs don't get a patient high; rather, they return the patient to a normal state of functioning. But what if a patient — myself, say — has rarely, if ever, experienced a normal state of functioning? What if "regular life" has meant cutting one's arms? If this is the case, then the "normal state" Prozac ushers in is an experience in the surreal.

I remember running my hand over things to test the medicine's power, fiddling with the taps on my sink. Turning them on, then off, but not completely, so the washers still dripped. It was OK. There would be no punishing flood. Not sure what to do next, I considered lunch. I pulled my menus out from the night-table drawer, the menus I had for several years carefully calculated for their calories, proteins and fats. The day's menu suggested tuna, a single scoop with low-cal mayonnaise, two rice cakes and mineral water. I'd been eating this for a long time. I couldn't quite believe that. Low-cal mayonnaise? I wanted something richer, something whipped and frozen.

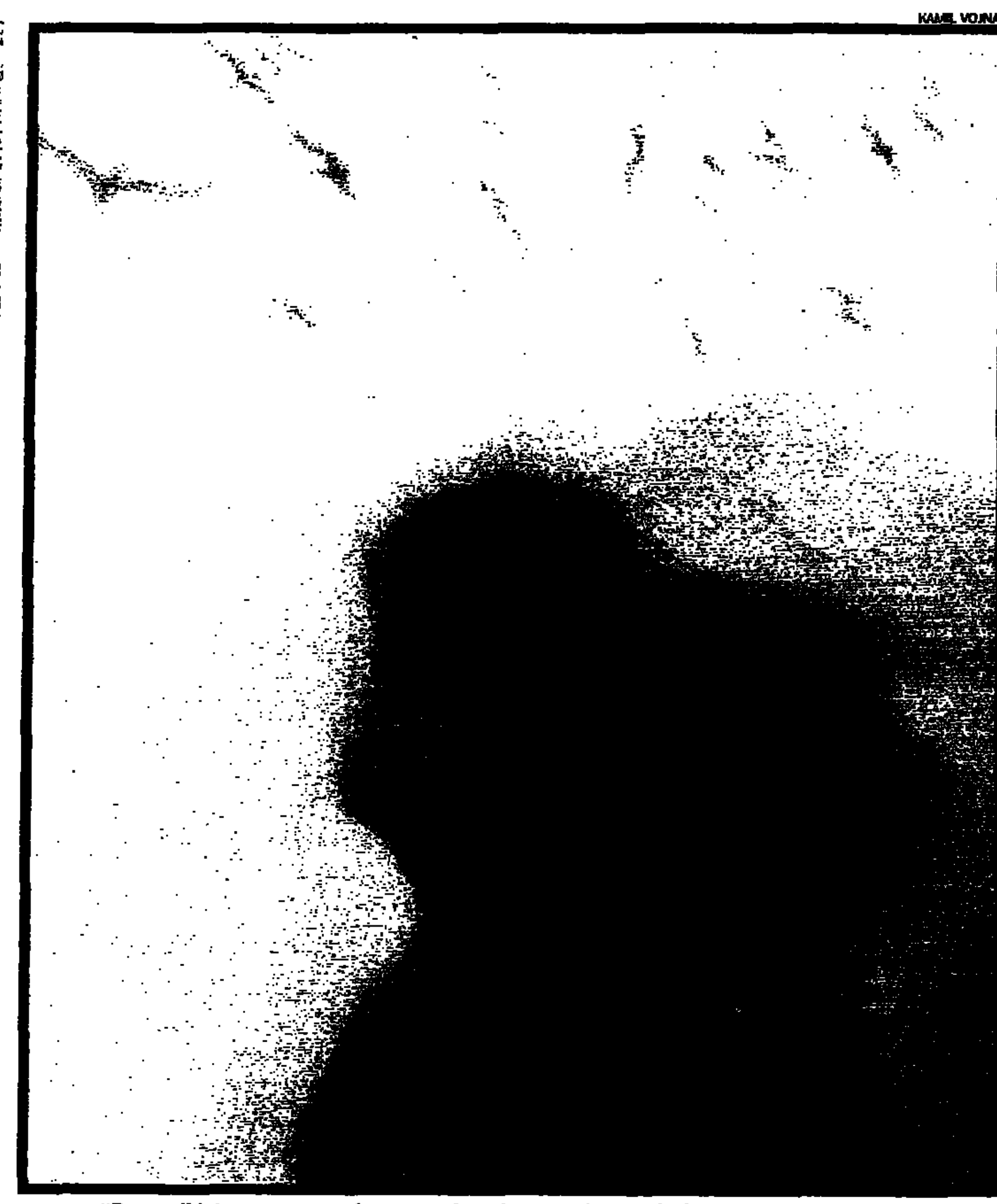
I had a lot of books, mostly nonfiction, because I'd always felt that in psychology, philosophy and theology I might find clues about how to live my life. Now I stood by my bookshelves a little lost. They were full of death and anxiety. Everything was less relevant — my menus, the narratives that had had so much meaning for me. And in their place? Ice-cream. I went to get it.

I reckon that the initial effects of Prozac are in direct proportion to the subjective distress of the consumer. I had experienced my various psychiatric conditions as devastating: I was five and roses were red claws, I was ten and terrified to go outside, I was 12 and so thin that the bones turned to blades in my neck. In secret I cut myself. I knew nothing of pleasure. At 15 my life was the size of a hard, dark dot.

Now there was so much I wanted to try. I, a long-term mental patient in my twenties, had never been to a rock concert, had rarely left New England, had not in years eaten a meal without anxiety, taken a walk for no reason, let myself sleep late, dated a man: in short, just played.

Prozac did not start out as a dangerous drug, but over the months it sometimes became one. I began to range farther, getting reckless, hungry from all the time I'd lost to illness. I began going out late at night, prowling around until 2 or 3am, standing by the edge of the river. I felt invulnerable. I was 26, with the judgment of an early adolescent.

KAMIL VOJNAR



"Prozac didn't start out as a dangerous drug, but over the months it sometimes became one"

My skin had browned from the summer sun. My eyes were as clear as newly washed windows. I was the picture of health, as though I had finally come into the body meant for me, the body that had been with me even before birth. I felt at home in this body. This must be what people mean when they say "Prozac helped me to become the person I was meant to be".



Slater: personality disorder

But it wasn't so simple. My personality had always consisted of suppressed energies and curiosities, but also depressions, intensities, drivenness that tipped into pain. Except for the counting and touching obsessions, I missed these things, or parts of them.

I had always recorded images in my journal. When I wrote, it was not from "me" but from eight people I pictured living inside me. While I knew they were not real, I still experienced them as flesh, heard them, felt them: three men who taunted me, three nine-year-olds, a girl trapped in a glass case and a blue baby, dead or dying. These beings comprised my core.

Now I picked up my pen and opened my journal. I closed my eyes and waited. I said "yes" to myself, which in the past had been the signal for Blue Baby to speak to me. Now I heard silence.

"I don't feel like me," I told the Prozac doctor. "I'm scared." I was a different person now, both more and less like me, fulfilling one possibility while swerving from another. There is loss in that swerving.

Prozac, in my case, did not eliminate worry: rather, it shortened its life span so my bouts of fretting over the drug were rapidly replaced by longer bouts of cheer. And confidence. I sent a CV to schools — I thought I might like to try teaching — in which I aimed phantom jobs in distant states.

Then one evening, just before accepting a job offer at a literacy centre, I went to my first concert. The man next to me took my hand and had me move left, now right, now out of the aisle and up close to the stage, the music pouring.

"My name is Yehuda," he said, his accent Israeli. "Yehuda," I thought, swooning stupidly. "I'd like to go swimming." I didn't think he would hurt me. After all, he was from Israel and had been in the Army. To a girl raised by Zionist parents, that made it seem safe.

Later, he dropped me off at my apartment building. Only once I was inside did I realise I was shaking. What from? A narrow escape? The peak of pleasure? A potential rape? Love?

Six months have gone by since I started this drug and things are not as wild or tipsy as they were before. No more late-night feasts or rendezvous with Mediterranean men. Prozac and I are growing up together and it is a blessing and a pity. Sometimes I'm more fearful than longing. Today I told the Prozac doctor that I wanted off: "Life's too good. I feel so damn relaxed. I can't get anything creative done."

"So go off," he said. "No prescription today." Inside me I felt something seize and recede and reach. "You are misusing your power," I said, suddenly furious. "I'll stay on this stuff for another six months, but then, I swear it, I'm through."

● *Extracted from* Prozac Diary, *published by Hamish Hamilton this month at £9.99. Times readers can buy a copy for £8.99 by calling* The Times *Bookshop, 0990-135459*

TOMORROW

What happened when the Prozac stopped working

Feeling SAD and can't go to Barbados? Switch on



At this time of the year publishers' editors are taking to drink as deadlines come and go and manuscripts are not delivered. Most books are produced in the autumn in time for the Christmas market but others are published in May for which material has to be submitted in January. It couldn't be a more unfavourable time for authors who have depressive symptoms as, according to different experts, between 10 and 33 per cent of appreciably depressed patients suffer from seasonal affective disorder, SAD. In the three bleakest, darkest months of winter, they are cast down by a loss of energy and feelings of hopelessness and self-doubt.

One 50-year-old author found that each November he developed writer's block and became seriously depressed. His publishers decided always to publish his books in October so that the final spurt could coincide with a hypomanic phase of vernal exuberance in April or May. Frequently, when spring arrives patients with SAD, who have been showing signs and symptoms of depression in the winter months, become over-elated, over-excited — hypomanic — and, if writers, their computers patter away endlessly as they rush to meet their autumn deadline.

Before the diagnosis of SAD, a change in mood must have occurred in three different, but not necessarily consecutive, years, must last for at least two months and must show a complete remission once mornings become lighter and evenings draw out.

Although, by definition, SAD involves serious depression, minor degrees of it known as the "winter blues" affect a sizeable proportion of those living in northern climes who feel tired and depressed during the winter. They may attribute their mood to recurrent colds and flu, or they may blame the wet weather, but the essential factor is lack of light. Ninety per cent of the population have less *joie de vivre* in the winter.

SAD has characteristics which may separate it from other depressive illness. In particular, SAD is thought to be associated with over-eating, especially with a craving for carbohydrates. Sleep patterns, as in most cases of depression, are altered. However, hypersomnia, the dormouse effect, whereby the patient likes to spend a large portion of the winter in bed, hibernating and hiding from the world, is found more frequently in SAD than in other types of depressive illness in which insomnia predominates.

Patients with SAD suffer from standard symptoms of depression such as a lack of self-worth, irritability, guilt, sense of hopelessness and lethargy, but although everything becomes an effort, depression lifts as the day goes on. Not all patients will show hypersomnia or an over-fondness for chocolate, but many have insomnia, loss of appetite and diminished libido.

Since we can't all go to Barbados, the medicine chest will have to become an old-fashioned capacious cabin trunk large enough to contain a special bright light. The light has to produce at least 2,500 lux (LX), which will give a light five times brighter than that of a well-lit office. Many sitting rooms have light as low as 100 LX. Exposure to an artificially bright light fools the pineal gland at the base of the brain into thinking it is summertime so that it secretes less melatonin. During the night, melatonin is produced which not only makes us drowsy but, in heavy doses, affects mood. On long, dark, dull days, melatonin is produced in greater quantity. Melatonin levels also seem to bear a relationship to those of serotonin; a neurotransmitter also known as 5HT. With too little serotonin the jolliest become depressed.

The stronger the light, the shorter the patient needs to be exposed to it. With 10,000 lux, 30 minutes is enough, with 2,500 lux, one to two hours will be needed. The light must be faced but it is not necessary to look into it, so that even the most depressed author can work by its illumination and have his book published in May. The light doesn't emit UV rays and sunglasses are not needed. Each lamp will last 10,000 hours, if used just in the winter months for about 85 years — a lifetime sum.

A study published in the *Archives of General Psychiatry* showed that 60 per cent of SAD sufferers improved with light alone. Others may also need antidepressants; SSRIs, such as Prozac, are frequently prescribed, as are the older monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MOAIs) such as Parnate. It would therefore be reasonable to assume that Manerix (moclobemide), a recently introduced reversible MOA inhibitor, should be useful.

● *Philips Bright Light: Innoplan 0171-636 3942; Outside In (Cambridge) Ltd: 01954 2955*



‘Is there racism in the police? Yes. Is it more than a few bad apples? Yes’

Sir Paul Condon on the Lawrence inquiry race and his own future. Interview by **Vanora Bennett**

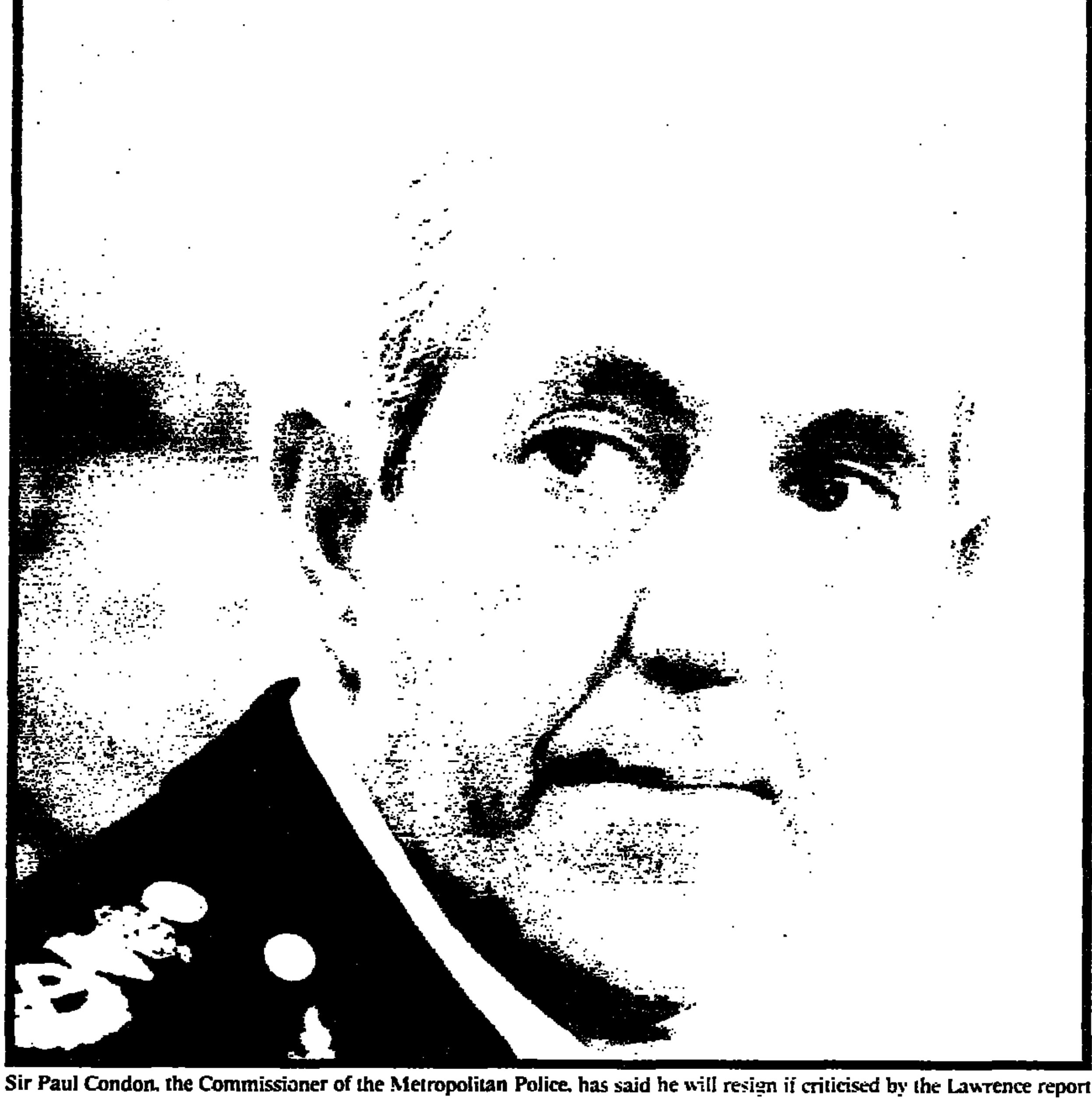
He doesn't look worried, but Sir Paul Condon is living with the fear that his career as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police may end early — and in ignominy.

His undoing, if it comes, could be the report due this month on what went wrong with the Met's investigation into the murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence. The case has become the focus for nationwide concern about police racism.

Sir Paul has made it a point of honour to promise that if the judicial inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny turns out to have criticised him personally he will resign. But the last thing he wants is to become a sacrificial lamb.

"I would be disappointed if that was the case," he says. "I have never run away from a challenge in my life. I believe that although it's going to be a painful time for us over the next few months I should have the courage to see through the reforms that will no doubt come out of the inquiry."

The irony is that Sir Paul has spent his six years in charge of the Met establishing a reputation as a reformer with an instinct for morality. Despite cuts in funding and staff, he has brought reported crime figures in London down to a ten-year low. Despite its unpopularity within the 26,000-strong force, he has also launched an anti-corruption campaign, which has resulted in 35 officers being charged and another 50 to 60 being suspended. And yet the botched investigation into the Lawrence case may prove the most enduring public memory of policing during Sir Paul's time in office. Stephen Lawrence, who hoped to become an architect, was stabbed by a gang of white youths in Eltham, south London, in April 1993 — a few weeks after Sir Paul took over the Met. The killers are still at liberty. Years of embarrassing revelations have exposed how a mainly white police force neglected the investigation of a white-on-black crime. The backlash has left Lawrence's parents folk heroes and the Met's reputation for racial fairness in tatters.


Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has said he will resign if criticised by the Lawrence report

The inquiry report — which will be delivered to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, later this month — is expected to be critical of Scotland Yard's handling of the case and its failure to secure successful prosecutions. Letters of criticism are being sent in advance to at least nine serving and former police officers.

There's a near missionary zeal about Sir Paul as he outlines the work he would like to do in 1999, which he hopes will be his last year before he retires next January. His goal now is to improve the confidence of non-white Londoners in their police by recruiting more non-white officers.

"The big challenge for us is diversity," he says — politically correct-speak for employing non-white non-males on an equal basis. He breaks off and walks across his office to rummage in a desk: "I seem to remember a photo," he muses. "Yes, here, that's me on my first day in the Met, 32 years ago. Slim, dark . . ." he laughs self-deprecatingly. The photo shows a group of young police recruits — with a lone black face among the four white ones. "That was the first day that a black member of the public joined the Met," Sire Paul adds."Norwell Robert."

New boys: Norwell Roberts, second left, and Condon, second right, at Hendon in 1967

A modern colour photo has also appeared, showing a grey-haired Sir Paul and a thicker-set Robert shaking hands. "That one is Norwell's retirement, 30 years later. I was proud that he invited me to speak at his retirement party. Norwell was a detective sergeant with a distinguished career. I was very pleased to recommend him for the Queen's Police Medal for very distinguished service. So I've seen the history of ethnic recruiting from Norwell through to over 400 when I came back as Commissioner."

> ‘I want my officers to be inspired by the way they fight racism’

Now about 900 officers are "colleagues from an ethnic background", he says. Non-white recruitment has risen to about 8 per cent of total intake, and more recruitment schemes will be launched in the next two months.

At the Lawrence inquiry, Sir Paul raised hackles by refusing to say there was "institutional racism" in the Met. But he says defensively that there were good legal reasons for balking at this label.

"Is there racism in the police service? Yes, there is. Is that racism more than a few bad apples? Yes, it is. Is it a major challenge for the police service? Yes, it is," he says, in a vaguely oratorical and soundbite-rich style favoured by the practised interviewee.

"Why then did I hesitate aloud when I was pressed at the inquiry to sign up to institutional racism? Because the inquiry is a very legal process which is going to set the tone for how we deal with these matters for the next five to ten years. And the definition of institutional racism was given to us by Lord Scarman 20 years ago. He said it means that, knowingly, as a matter of policy, you are racist.

"Now I don't come to work and knowingly as a matter of policy set out to be racist. Nor do I believe the majority of my colleagues do. The challenge with 'institutional racism' is that you're saying you're not a racist and no one in your office is — but somehow this mist comes under the door called 'institutional racism' and it influences your behaviour."

What Sir Paul would like to come out of the inquiry, he says, is not a negative, "academic, divisive" description of the problem, but a positive and uplifting prescription — a recipe for how to move on. He says: "I want my police officers to be inspired by the challenges of combating racism."

Meanwhile, he is taking comfort from a MORI poll he commissioned last year. "The number of people who said they trusted the Met went up from 71 per cent to 73 per cent last year," he says.

Sir Paul talks about his future with a breezy cheerfulness: "There's been a serendipity about my life that I'm sure will continue. I'll be 52 next January: that feels young, so I shall be doing lots of things."

Among the retirement activities he is planning are charity work, and teaching and writing at St Peter's College, Oxford, where he read law before joining the Met and has since been made an honorary Fellow. He also hopes the police will use him as "a resource", both in London and in Kent, where he was Chief Constable until 1993 and where he and his wife still live.

Most important, he will get to know his family again: "It's a privilege to do this job, but there is life beyond being a Commissioner and it would be nice to indulge me and my family in things beyond policing."

He lists his children with pride: the daughter who married last year, the son of 24 working for a blue-chip company and his youngest boy doing A levels. "I should start with the most important person, my wife," he grins. "The Boss and I have been married for 30 years this year. I've been lucky to have a wife who's supported me through everything."

There's a wistfulness in Sir Paul's voice when he suggests that the improvements he has made to policing deserve more recognition. "I'm trying to ensure there is a better quality of life. One of the sad traits in Britain is that we are too quick to criticise and I think there is a huge amount to be proud of, and that's what I would hope to be remembered for."

Love, marriage and flexisex

Tom Spencer's wife didn't mind that he was bisexual. Is that so unusual? **Anjana Ahuja** reports

Tom Spencer stretched the gulf between public persona and private individual to the limit. To onlookers, he was a successful Conservative MEP with an adoring, professional wife, attractive children and a Surrey mansion. To others, he was a homosexual who lived dangerously, dating a male porn star and dabbling in drugs.

But the most surprising aspect of the episode is that his wife of 19 years had apparently given her blessing to this state of affairs. Moreover, she knew of his bisexuality before marriage and was happy to continue a physical relationship while Mr Spencer pursued other affairs. "I'm not saying [our situation] is common, but I suspect it is not as unusual as people might think," she was reported to have told journalists at the weekend.

Dr Judith Freedman, a consultant psychiatrist in psychotherapy at the Portman Clinic in London, agrees: "In marriages where the husband has homosexual tendencies it is not at all uncommon for the partner to know before the marriage began. Sometimes the 'knowing' can be a hunch, or it can be more explicit."

So why do women stay in such partnerships? "It may relieve the wife of her own worries about her commitment to the relationship," says Dr Freedman. "The full weight of an intimate relationship no longer falls on her."

Lee Everett, the former wife of the comic Kenny Everett, who died of an Aids-related illness in 1995, knew that Ev, as she called him, had gay leanings when she met him, but that didn't stop them getting together. "I fell in love with him," says Everett, who teaches healing and works with the Institute of Complementary Medicine, and is now married to the actor John Alkin. "We used to say that if it weren't for that one thing, we would have the perfect relationship."

But they had their own agendas. "Ev thought that being gay was wrong, and used to torment himself about it," she says. "He thought being married would change that. And I thought I could change him. In the end, he came out completely, and that's when I decided to finish it. I could not have done what Mrs Spencer has done. But I understand why she stayed — love is difficult to walk away from. You could ask the same thing of women who are battered. They keep going back because of love."

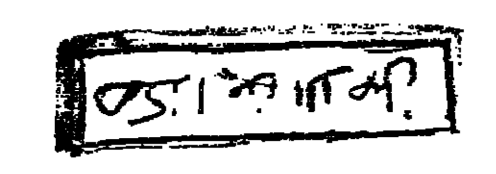
David Northmore, the news editor of the *Pink Paper*, is not surprised by the Spencers' arrangement and thinks such marital situations are not so rare. Mr Spencer, it seems, is simply subscribing to a new "flexisex" culture, in which people are a lot more accepting of their own various sexual identities.

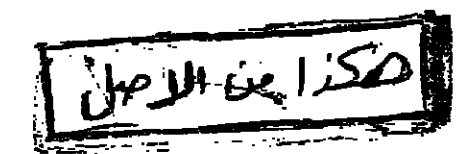

Tom Spencer and his wife

"This shows that Tom Spencer is not dissimilar to the next man, because he has a complex, multifaceted sexual identity," he says. "We have gay, straight and bisexual, but those labels leave out a huge army of people, particularly the young, who may have a heterosexual identity but occasionally practise gay sex quite openly. They don't want a 'bi' label because such identities are set in concrete. Being bisexual means one is equally attracted to men and women, yet you can have a man who eventually wants to settle down and get married who wants a gay fling. For him, it's a bit risqué, a bit transient.

"We are taught to believe the storybook version of relationships, which is that we should all get married and have 2.4 kids. But life isn't like the storybooks and neither are relationships."







The People's Ref awards a death penalty

The real offence in this absurd Hoddle affair is Tony Blair's

Henry VIII would have been proud of Tony Blair. The bearded Tudor tyrant would be delighted that the tonsured People's Premier is maintaining the right of the executive to make religious appointments. The Prime Minister has already exerted himself over the selection of minor clerics, rejecting both the Church's nominees for the bishopric of Liverpool, and preferring his own favourite. But now Mr Blair has intervened to place the black spot next to the name of an altogether more elevated spiritual figure. Glenn Hoddle has been found guilty of heresy.

Just as all the most important matters of Roman Catholic doctrine are promulgated from the papal throne, *ex cathedra*, so the Prime Minister chose a platform consonant with the dignity of his position, and used *This Morning*, with Richard and Judy, to pronounce *ex comfy sofa*. Mr Blair declared that it will be "very difficult" for the England football team coach to stay in post as a consequence of remarks he made in *The Times* on Saturday.

Has the blood of Charlie Whelan been cleansed from Alastair Campbell's axe? Is Cardinal Irvine ready to administer extreme unction? Then, off with this Hod!

Hoddle should be flattered. He now joins an elite group, which includes Deirdre Rachid of *Coronation Street* and a Danish tourist in the Seychelles, in whose fate Mr Blair has taken a very personal interest. The Downing Street press machine has been assiduous in informing the nation of the Prime Minister's efforts on behalf of the drowning Dane and dreary Deirdre. But those were charitable acts, and goodly Mr Blair was happy to hide his light under a Campbell. When it comes, however, to the grim business of letting a football manager know he has to go, then Mr Blair reluctantly shuffles into the arc-lights to pronounce sentence.

Michael Gove

We were witnessing another wave of constitutional innovation from the Great Moderniser. The nationalisation of the Football Association and the execution of its coach were given the Blairite assent from our new Upper House — the *This Morning* studio, where the powerful are traditionally held so rigorously to account.

The views on reincarnation and personal belief which have placed Mr Hoddle in the dock are perhaps not those one expects from a football manager, let alone the England coach. But the real conduct unbecoming is not Hoddle's, it is the Government's. The manner, and the substance, of its reaction is the graver offence.

Government by chat show is bad enough, but it is deeply unsettling that the Prime Minister should feel he can now pronounce on the public acceptability of religious opinions, and decide the suitability of individuals for employment by independent bodies.

Mr Blair's appearance was not a stray exercise in slumming, no moment of madness. It was part of a calculated strategy revealed at the weekend. The Downing Street press machine has, apparently, tired of the Government's historic achievements being ignored by newspapers which are obsessed with "soap-opera gossip" and "trivia". So, instead, the Prime Minister will speak to his people through more elevated media.

Des O'Connor's studio will enjoy a return visit, perhaps to help us to explore the peace process. Richard and Judy will chat to Tony again soon, possibly to tease out the constitutional implications of the euro. And, if we need to explore the modalities of adoption policy, perhaps Jerry Springer could help. We can now see that the MP who has had the greatest influence on the shaping of new Labour's distinctive approach was neither Mandelson nor Brown, but Robert Kilroy-Silk.

This flight from scrutiny is accompanied, not surprisingly, by a flexing of authority. The Prime Minister, having redefined what Labour Party members should believe so that it is in conformity with his own conscience, now feels able to dictate what is an acceptable faith for the rest of us.

Reincarnation, a tenet of Hindu and Buddhist belief, is now, according to Mr Blair, "very offensive". Does that mean Mr Blair will ask the Dalai Lama to consider his position? Or will it mean that Mr Blair will return the money given to the Millennium Dome's "Spirit Zone" by the Hinduja brothers, faithful adherents of Shiva? If belief in reincarnation really is "deeply offensive" then how can the Dome be funded with this tainted Hindu cash?

And if the Prime Minister can tell us what religious beliefs are offensive, it is a small step to decreeing that certain faiths debar their holders from office. Wellington may have considered that it was time, in the 1820s, to remove religious barriers to participation in public life, but he was clearly a little hasty in opening the great offices of state to heretics. How can we tolerate an England coach so grievously in error in matters of the spirit?

The Prime Minister clearly cares about football, although it would be interesting to see if his attendance record at St James' Park is any better than it is in Parliament. So, who can blame him for intervening to decree what are suitable managerial appointments? After all, why else was the Premier League so named?

Mr Blair also reminded us yesterday that he is a dedicated Newcastle fan. Ruud Gullit's boys haven't been doing too well recently. If I were the Newcastle manager, I should refrain from offering opinions on anything other than the superiority of a flat back four versus the sweeper system lest the Prime Minister use an appearance on *Vanessa* to denounce this overstepping of the mark to call for another head. As Henry VIII proved, once the axe has been wielded it can prove addictive.

michael.gove@the-times.co.uk



"...WHICH PROBABLY MEANS WE'LL COME BACK AS GLENN HODDLE!"

Can't boss, won't boss

The pay award to heads throws into focus the real qualities of leadership

A public sector pay round does not, as a rule, set me rambling down philosophical alleys. Generally, we embittered old lefties merely mark the event by snarling "pay the nurses, pay the teachers, use the taxes, you know it makes sense", and then stumping off to the pub in disgust when it doesn't happen.

This time, though, one well-leaked detail has haunted me for days, tuning through one station after another to phone-ins and interviews and soundbites. This is the proposal to increase the salary of primary head teachers by up to 10 per cent, while their staffs get only 2 or 3.

The aim, it appears, is to encourage application for headships in small primary schools. Not enough teachers want to be boss. In the last academic year, 25 per cent of vacancies were not filled; in London boroughs 60 per cent. Statistically and anecdotally, there is plenty of proof that happy classroom teachers shrink from taking on the burden of leadership; and who can blame them? But for the system to work, one in seven primary teachers eventually has to be either a head or a deputy: it is not a world where it is easy to hide happily in the ranks.

Yet the rumblings on the radio suggested disaffection. "Why," asked one young teacher, "should heads be offered 10 per cent? They are only first among equals." "We are a team," said another. "It is insulting to set them apart as something special." A strangely 1960s tone prevailed, as it distressingly often does when you listen to teachers. There was a Utopian, hippy feeling there: a subtext that the times are a-changing, that we ain't gonna work on Maggie's Farm no more, that the first shall be last and that the giving and accepting of orders is, frankly, man, an affront to human dignity.

Well, you see where the philosophising is leading me. You see why the question ricochets into every corner of national life. What is leadership worth? What does it deserve? Is it something to splash out on, and once you have bought it, how much can you ask in return?

I can speak with some authority on the nature of leadership, for the shaming reason that I do not have a flicker of the stuff. Never wanted to be chairman or colonel or MD or editor: the very thought appals. I suspect that there are a good few of us out here, quietly recognising that we are Indians not Chiefs. We will be dedicated and inventive, creatives, sloggers, team players, lieutenants, mentors to the young — anything and everything, but spare us the top job. Can't boss, won't boss. If I were a teacher I would lock myself in the stationery cupboard when they came trawling for Heads.

This has nothing at all to do with being female. There are plenty of men who feel the same (though it is harder for them to admit it) and one of the delights of our age has been to watch the good-natured ease with which women have taken command in every area from the City to ocean racing. No, it is a temperamental quirk of natural selection, shared by both sexes. But it makes those of us who have it supersensitive to the qualities of real leaders, and willing to accept that if they do it right they are worth paying for.

Libby Purves

I secretly felt this even in 1968, when revulsion against the boss-class reached its apogee and fellow-students ranted against vice-chancellors and the Warden of All Souls. Guiltily aware that I would rather beg in the Underground than be warden of anything, ever, I retained a sneaking, unfashionable sympathy for anyone who had to manage a pack of other people. I also studied them, trying to gauge what magical combination of confidence, clarity, receptiveness and resistance to pressure make a good leader, and why some are no good at all.

It is an important subject — *the* important subject. It affects every human institution, yet for all our seminars and motivational gobbledegook, a thicket of confusion surrounds it. The grumbling at the heads' proposed pay rise is only one small symptom; an opposite symptom is the proliferation of fat-cat pay rises in commerce (and in the fake commerce of privatised utilities). In the case of schools we find it hard to shake off the Sixties attitude that all are equal. In the commercial world we allow the equally erroneous Eighties attitude that, if you pay a ludicrous sum to your chief executive, the sheer magic of money will make him or her effective. The Victor Rice case — £17 million for closing his outfit down — is only the latest example of fat-cattism, and at least it is a proper risk-taking outfit.

More disturbing is the crazy habit of hurling vast salaries at the chiefs of monopoly privatised utilities — who take no personal risk whatever, and get large payoffs when they fail.

Both are distortions of the idea of leadership. Exactly where the top salary should be set relative to the lowest is always up for discussion: the idealistic American company Ben & Jerry's once tried to restrict it to a 7:1 ratio, and failed because no chief executive would work for so little. Note that in our schools it is barely 3:1 at the extremes.

This wavering attitude to money and perks is not the only evidence that we are confused about leadership. The other oddity is that — with honourable exceptions — prominent people fail to grasp that when they let the office down they have to go. The most startling aspect of the MEP Tom Spencer's troubles at the weekend was the interview he gave while he was still trying to hang on to his seat. Despite the drugs and porn, he really seemed to think that because he had said "sorry", admitted to stupidity and been forgiven by his nice wife and daughters, everything was all right and he should be allowed to stay on in the European Parliament. Likewise, the weirdest thing about Glenn Hoddle's amusingly crypto-Buddhist theological outburst is his conviction that having upset so many people (on top of blowing the World Cup) he is as good as new.

Had either of these men been a proper leader, he would have grasped long ago that once you put on a mantle of office you forfeit small luxuries, like expressing your private theory of cosmic punishment for disabled babies, or accepting illicit substances from louche contacts in Amsterdam. Admittedly it must be a hard life, being above suspicion; I had a wonderful letter once from a former headmaster who in his retirement moved two hundred miles and resumed his boyhood pursuit of poaching. "It isn't the free pheasants," he wrote, "it's the joy of not setting a good example any more."

In short, we grudge money to some leaders while asking too much of them, fling mad-money at others, and fail to make it clear to any of them what we expect. It needs thinking through.

While we do so, and before we jib at the idea of village head teachers being worth a few extra quid, we might meditate on what this idyllic job can be like. I refer you to a hair-raising account in last Friday's *Times Educational Supplement* of Mrs Julie Murray, headmistress in a run-down former mining village in West Yorkshire. She has written to the Prime Minister about it. On a typical day, one six-year-old's family possessions have been burnt by an irate landlord, including his reading folder: snap decision — must his mother pay? Another child brings in a form unsigned because her home does not own a pen. The school needs new fencing and a panic button because a known paedophile is haunting it — and oops, a man has just broken in to the nursery. Two small girls arrive distressed and breakfastless after walking around all night because the mother's violent boyfriend is back.

In the midst of this the school must be administered and improved, and children and parents cheered and given heart. Clearly, all the staff are heroic; equally clearly, the woman who leads and enables them and answers the hard questions quickly deserves even more. Why? Because it all hangs on her. She's the leader.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Cherie picker

BUT FOR Chie Booth, British politics might ave been rather different. WhenTony Blair was first elected, Mitael Howard and Norman Lamonwere so charmed by his friendly anner that they considered him aossible convert.

Soon after th 1983 election, Howard suggeste to Lamont that they throw a dinr for the Blairs. The three coups met at the Howards' in Pirico. Blair was delightful, but Chrie sat pursed-lipped. After the3lairs left, the Tories concluded ver cigars that the only reason tl new MP had not joined their pay was his wife — whom they both und terrifying.

● *A GLAMOROU pre-wedding job for Sophie Rh-Jones: "JCB clothing." The consuction firm, of mucky digger fam is to design "fashionable casuawear" for rugged sorts. Sophie sayshe is looking forward to "a long nd rewarding relationship" with e truckers. I hope she models the re ("exclusively available in Debeiams") at her little party this sumer.*

Out of fous

IT'S dingos at dawnhe National Portrait Gallery has lnned Nicole Kidman from an eibition, *50 Famous Australians*.ussie snapper Polly Borland is oss that the NPG overlooked Nice in favour of Germaine Greerand Barry





Humphries (above, witNicole). "I wanted her," says Bornd. "The NPG says she has to livhere. But she does own a house he and has been on the London stag"

The NPG is unmove "People like Nicole Kidman are ry interesting, but we're not surehey fulfil the criteria exactly." Howilly: few Aussies are interestingbut Ms Kidman is at least photonic.

● *LIONEL BART, the* Olir! *musical impresario, is recoveng from smoke inhalation after s house caught fire. A bouquet Diary flowers have started the ng and perilous journey to Acton.*

'Nuff Said

OXFORD'S nose still los skywards in the company c Wafic Said, despite his millions. Te Arab tycoon intends charging sdents £15,000 a year at his Esiness School linked to the univery.

But Said must first obtain overnment approval via Oxfordwhich discouraged Said from builng his £20 million pad. "We have nplans to ask for permission," a gon tells



me. "We won't be condering any such proposal." Goodie Wafic?

● *A BIOGRAPHY of ancy Astor has upset the agent f our first female MP.* The Langhrne Sisters *is by Astor's grandsonJames Fox. "You would think thathe wasn't a kind person," says Fridie Knox. "Once she had four eldly ladies to stay. She was called President Kennedy asking to see er, but she said no because she hd constituents with her." Knox hademanded that Fox take out any rerences to him in the paperbac. "I will continue to defend he until the day I die," he declares.*

Hacked of

LORD SHAWCROSS, rosecutor at Nuremberg, was so deperate to become Chancellor of Susex University that he tried to getis chum Harold Macmillan to intrvene. A barrage of his letters, ust unearthed, to Viscountess Waverley, show that Shawcross felt h chance had been blighted by bitt gossip from a filthy hack who for one often odd emotional reaso hates me". Macmillan was not inrested.

JASPER GEIARD

Quangos are now usurping the role once played by the beadle in the workhouse, and are deciding what goes on our plates

Tony Gilland

Modern demons seem to come in white coats. In the Sixties the scientifically trained, from Quatermass to Kildare, were our saviours. Now Doctor Jekyll has become Professor Hyde. Scientists may be able to trace the origins of Aids, and raise hopes of a cure, but there seems to be no antidote to the fear of progress which grips the modern mind.

Nowhere is this new fear better demonstrated than in the world of genetics. Here the wolf is supposed to lurk beneath Dolly the sheep's clothing. The prejudice is directed particularly against genetically modified (GM) crops and food. Those opposed to progress talk of superweeds taking over the world, and as yet undetected "long-term side-effects".

This week the critics of progress gathered under the banner of Greenpeace to denounce GM food. Too many cooks may spoil the argument but, nevertheless, Greenpeace recruited "more than 100 chefs and food writers" who were opposed to "freakish" genetically modified foods.

Writing in Sunday's *Observer*, Joanna Blythman, the food writer spearheading the campaign, accused the Government of "rolling over for the biotech industry" despite "every indicator of public opinion" showing that "the more consumers know about gene foods, the less they want them".

It is certainly true that the more these campaigners spread scares about GM foods the less likely stores are to stock them. After a year of high-profile criticism by a range of environmental interest groups, major supermarkets are shrinking from the new. They are following the example set by the Iceland chain and asking to be supplied with ingredients which have not been genetically modified.

State bodies, equally fearful of what they believe public reaction to be, are calling for yet further regulation. Quangos are now usurping the role once played by the beadle in the workhouse, and are deciding what goes on our plates. English Nature has demanded a moratorium on the commercial growth of GM crops. It claims to want to protect farmland birds and wildlife from "unknown effects". Jeff Rooker, Food Safety Minister, has informed farmers of the "tight regulatory controls" being put in place "to protect consumers".

What no one has pointed out, however, is that public concerns about GM food are the most artificially manufactured thing in this whole debate. Fears have been shaped by a coalition of green interest groups.

A survey conducted by NOP for the Food and Drink Federation in 1995 found that only 22 per cent of respondents were likely to buy products resulting from biotechnology. The same survey, however, found that only 23 per cent were likely to avoid such products. Forty-five per cent wanted more information.

And they got it, but all from the anti-GM campaigners. By June 1998, when MORI conducted a survey for Genewatch, 61 per cent of respondents said that they would not be happy to eat genetically modified food. Clearly opinion had been influenced. All by a fear of "the unknown".

Survey questions are shamelessly framed in a way likely to produce the scariest results. A survey conducted by Gallup for Iceland used a definition of genetic modification, approved by an anti-GM foods campaigner, which clearly sought to heighten the respondents' concerns. It described the transfer of genes "from a human to a pig to make it grow faster and leaner".But no product manufactured like this is on the market.

Other polls do show that people are more likely to purchase GM tomatoes or potatoes once they realise that the GM varieties required "fewer pesticide applications". But while the only thing which polls really prove is that survey data need to be treated with caution, those results which fit in with the prevailing mood of superstition are hyped. The efforts of green interest groups, timorous retailers and regulation-addicted governments conspire to reinforce phantom fears. It is no surprise that the public becomes more suspicious of technology.

Public opinion is being shaped by those who, for ideological reasons, advocate a return to small-scale localised farming. These new medievalists would deny the public the actual and potential benefits of modern technology that can deliver cheaper, better-tasting foods, with extra nutrients where desired. Genetic modification brings the dream of real progressives nearer, better food at lower prices. Why make the expensive journey backwards to "organic" agriculture? Cheap food has been the progressives' call in Britain since the time of the Corn Laws. It should be so again.

The author is a director of Open Dialogue Limited.

comment@the-times.co.uk

GAME OVER

Hoddle hangs on by half-truth, half-sense and dishonour

Not for the first time Tony Blair has demonstrated his ability to articulate the most decent popular instincts of the country. Although the management of England's football team is some distance from his usual brief, the Prime Minister was right to give a reply when asked about the comments made by Glenn Hoddle and reported in *The Times* on Saturday, and correct in his assertion that those remarks, if accurate, were "very offensive" and made it "very difficult for him to stay" in his present, exceptionally public, position.

Mr Blair, again properly, cautioned that no final decision should be made until Mr Hoddle had been offered the chance to put forward an explanation. A few hours later Mr Hoddle took that opportunity in a set of television interviews which, taken together, constituted a degrading farrago of half-truth and evasion, the incoherent and inconsistent combined.

At one moment he claimed that he had never said "them things" with the clear implication that the reporter must have invented them. In another setting he qualified his words somewhat, denying only that he had never said directly that disabled and handicapped people are paying now for past failings. Within seconds he then hinted that the quotes concerned may have been accurate but had been misinterpreted. To add further conclusion both Mr Hoddle and his agent, Dennis Roach, later left the impression that whatever he did or did not say he had thought it was off the record.

Mr Hoddle seems determined to compound his original offence. No amount of waffle can alter the exact words that the English coach chose to put forward to Matt Dickinson on Thursday: "You and I have been physically given two hands and two legs and half-decent brains. Some other people (have) not been born with that for a reason. There is a karma working off from another lifetime." In case of any confusion he reiterated his thoughts with the phrase "What you sow you have to reap, good and bad, not just disabilities". Mr Hoddle offered his thoughts freely and at length. He was not, as he seemed to suggest yesterday, deceived into outlining a set of ill-developed thoughts.

While Mr Hoddle continues with the claim that others have conspired to do him down, his apparent apology to those whom he has undoubtedly offended lacks all credibility. His latest words serve only to reinforce the already substantial doubts that exist about his judgment. An outright admission that he had said something that he has subsequently come to regret would have been more honest and allowed him to preserve some personal honour.

The Football Association cannot content itself with extracting a pledge from Mr Hoddle that he will in future confine his words to football rather than expand on his personal philosophy. The English coach manufactured yet more reasons yesterday why he should now submit his resignation — and why, if that resignation does not come, he should be removed from his post.

PROFESSIONAL PAY

Blunkett offers common sense in the classroom

Evaluating performance and rewarding success in education has long been a subject of heated debate. Testing children offended many progressive theorists, who attacked it as "divisive". The same argument is now being used against the Government's plans to pay teachers according to performance. When the Education Secretary, David Blunkett, announced yesterday that classroom teachers' salaries would increase by an above inflation level of 3.5 per cent, some head teachers' pay would rise by up to 9.5 per cent, and that teachers' pay will be linked to their performance, the teaching unions accused him of unfairness. There were warnings that industrial action is closer than "for many, many years". Such an approach reflects the unions' outdated outlook. Mr Blunkett is simply trying to make the profession like any other: one where hard work, dedication and motivation are rewarded with promotion and remuneration. Classroom teachers do deserve higher pay, but increases should be linked to performance.

Mr Blunkett is right to award primary school head teachers a larger pay rise than their colleagues in secondary schools. His strategy to raise standards in numeracy and literacy largely depends on the primary sector, which is suffering from a chronic shortage of head teachers. Last year more than a quarter of the vacancies for heads and deputies had to be readvertised. Higher pay might attract new recruits, and should help to retain existing heads. Head teachers in secondary schools have little reason to complain, as they now have the potential to earn up to £70,000 a year.

The moans from the teaching unions about classroom teachers' pay have less to do with this year's settlement than Mr Blunkett's plans for performance-related pay. Their members should be thankful that, for the first time in four years, their pay rise will be not be staged. Furthermore, by September up to 250,000 teachers will be eligible to apply for appraisal under the Government's new pay scheme. Those who pass the assessment should receive an immediate pay rise of up to 10 per cent. The fact that union leaders are not rejoicing at this prospect, but condemning the principles on which the new system is based, reflects their antiquated approach to teaching.

To any other professional, Mr Blunkett's mechanism for judging teachers' performance is commonsense. He has resolutely stuck to the principle that evaluations will be based on what can be measured objectively. To enter the new system, teachers will be expected to demonstrate (among other attributes) that their pupils have a "consistent pattern of high achievement". If teachers pass this assessment, future pay rises will depend on their meeting three objectives — one of which "should involve target-setting for expected pupil performance or progress". Mr Blunkett must withstand any attempt to break this link. Diluting it, and biasing evaluation in favour of subjective criteria, would risk rewarding mediocrity, not excellence.

The Education Secretary proposes that the new system will be policed by external assessors. Although schools are groaning under the weight of circulars, this new army of officials is a necessary evil. Up to £1 billion will be spent implementing the pay and performance proposals. An alien culture in most schools, their enforcement will require a watchful eye. Mr Blunkett should instruct these consultants to adopt a light touch, intervening in the assessments by head teachers and governors only when absolutely necessary.

The sooner these changes are in place, the better. Most parents will ignore teaching unions' complaints that the new system is bad because it is divisive. Slowly but steadily, the classroom egalitarianism, which dictates that every teacher should be treated in the same way, will disappear. At last, those who teach their pupils better than others will be given the pay that they undoubtedly deserve.

THE SIMIAN LINK

Developing an Aids vaccine may still take years

The discovery that the human Aids virus originated in chimpanzees has raised hopes that scientists may be nearer the goal that has eluded them for years — the development of a vaccine. The disease has infected 35 million people and still has no cure. Anything that illuminates its mysterious origins is a significant step in the research needed to understand the structure and behaviour of the virus.

It is particularly welcome that scientists have laboured on, despite the taboos that have burdened Aids with political and social controversy, pursuing the lead that appeared most promising almost a decade ago when it was widely supposed that Aids originated in Africa. They have not been deterred by the uproar of those who claimed this was a slur on Africans or denounced supposed links to simian immuno-deficiency virus (SIV) as degrading. But it would be wrong to raise false hopes. For despite intense political pressure to move to human trials of prototype vaccines, scientists are now reluctantly concluding that all such tests are premature. It could be a decade before an effective vaccine can be developed.

The importance of the latest discovery is that the primate species has a 98 per cent genetic correspondence to human beings. But it is not affected by the virus. Could the reason why humans sicken but not chimpanzees lie in the small genetic differences between the two? The spread from ape to man also appears to be linked to the killing of chimpanzees for food. This reinforces two urgent campaigns: to preserve the apes that may prove vital for research; and to stop the hunting and eating of this endangered species.

President Clinton has set 2007 as the target by which a vaccine should be available. But politics, once a barrier to Aids research, may now be setting unrealistic deadlines. Aids experts told the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that the attempt to develop a vaccine that relies on stimulating an antibody response has been a failure. And the SIV vaccine tested on macaque monkeys actually gave some of them full-blown Aids. Laboratory strains of HIV are also different from those found in the wild. An entirely new approach, depending instead on stimulating killer T-cells, may now be needed.

This is depressing news for countries such as Thailand, straining under an avalanche of cases, which are desperate to begin trials. Unfortunately, only a few drug companies are showing interest, for only a vaccine that is cheap to make can find a market in Africa and Asia. Research will continue and new discoveries may result from the chimpanzee connection. But for the foreseeable future the fight against Aids must be fought with social weapons: prevention, education and responsible personal behaviour.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Path for Lib Dems after Ashdown

From Mr V. N. Bingham

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("Turn left for No 10", January 27) is unfair to the Ashdown legacy — but realistic about the future path for the Liberal Democrats.

He is is unfair to Paddy Ashdown's efforts to change from a radical viewpoint the Government's lurches into Blatcherism. Increased expenditure on health, education and crime prevention; greater participation in the European Union; more ethical foreign policies — these have been the meat of constructive opposition. The involvement in Cabinet committee has been to push ahead the long-standing Liberal commitment to devolution and fairer voting systems.

Paddy's approach, while leading to a more disciplined parliamentary party, has not inhibited the progress being made in London and the northern cities in particular — in firstly extinguishing Tory representation and then eroding Labour monopolies in city, county and town halls.

In Liverpool, Sheffield, Stockport, Islington and many other places, we have proved time and time again that Liberal principles, policies and practical solutions can be well understood and supported. The result is seen in the ballot boxes of run-down, high-unemployment, crime-ridden council estates.

Now we can see that some of the aspirant middle-class meritocracy are also rethinking their support for a Government which has bombed Iraq without UN authority, been ambivalent about the East Timor invasion and is still hesitant about monetary union.

If our new leader has the courage to confirm and develop the separate identity of the Liberal Democrats, I believe that he or she will not only consolidate the unity and relevance which Paddy created, but also fill the need for a popular political movement of the Left.

Yours faithfully,
V. N. BINGHAM
(Chair, North West
Liberal Democrats, 1992-95),
34 Ashwood Avenue, West Didsbury,
Manchester M20 2ZB.
January 27.

From Mr Tom Miers

Sir, As a Conservative candidate in the last election in Scotland, I was well versed in the various debates about devolution and its implications.

I distinctly remember the Liberal Democrats sharing our belief that Scots MPs should have no say on English matters after the Scottish parliament had been set up to run Scottish affairs. They advocated a series of English regional parliaments to counterbalance the Scottish one as a solution to this problem, the so-called "West Lothian question".

Yet we now see three prominent Liberal Democrat Westminster MPs from Scotland in the race to become leader of the UK party. Although Malcolm Bruce and Menzies Campbell are outsiders, Charles Kennedy appears to be favourite for the job. May I ask what authority Kennedy (or either of the others, for that matter) would have to speak on most domestic issues? As Westminster MPs none of them has any power in Scotland, or as Scots MPs any legitimacy in England.

Surely it would be a bit like having a party leader in the House of Lords — theoretically possible but lacking any credibility in practice.

Yours faithfully,
TOM MIERS,
14 Hawthorn View,
Chapel Allerton, Leeds LS7.
thomas.miers@kpmg.co.uk
February 1.

From Baroness Maddock, President of the Liberal Democrats

Sir, Of course Simon Jenkins, in common with most of our political opponents, would like the Liberal Democrats to make a random lurch to the left. In the early 1990s he wanted us to take up the Eurosceptic baton and fight on a nationalist ticket. A political party exists to promote its principles and to implement its policies — not to fill a temporarily empty niche in the market.

It might suit *The Times* if we took ourselves off to the political wilderness but we shall ignore your siren voices.

Yours,
DIANA MADDOCK,
President,
Liberal Democrats,
4 Cowley Street, SW1P 3NB.
January 27.

Heroes and villains

From Dr Klaus Meyer

Sir, Lord Nelson is unpopular not only in Naples (report, January 22) but also in Copenhagen, where he firebombed the entire city, with the loss of considerable civilian life — after Denmark had declared its neutrality.

One country's war heroes are often another country's enemies, if not war criminals.

Yours faithfully,
KLAUS MEYER
(Visiting Associate Professor,
London Business School),
Aabakkevej 23,
2720 Vanloese, Denmark.
km.cees@cbs.dk
January 25.

Verdict on the loss of legal Latin

From Mr Paul L. Maggiore

Sir, Apropos (or should I say "With reference to"?) the outlawing of legal Latin *pro bono publico* (report, January 29), it is a pity, in my opinion, that the modernisation process should be limited to legal language and traditions.

The office of Lord Chancellor itself should go, to be replaced by a Ministry for Justice, with the incumbent minister democratically elected and accountable for his actions to the House of Commons.

At the same time the process of appointment of judges should cease to be made exclusively on the recommendation of other judges or lawyers, and their ranks should not be confined to lawyers.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL L. MAGGIORE
(Solicitor),
14 West Lawn, Ashbrooke,
Sunderland SR2 7HW.
January 29.

From Mr Stuart Rosen

Sir, You report that there are already fears that HMSO will be unable to meet demand for the new 800-page, £250 book containing the new rules, and that this has produced anxiety and panic amongst the legal profession.

Hasn't anybody but the Lord Chancellor heard of the Internet, where the rules are published in full on his website?

Yours etc,
STUART ROSEN,
23 Glebe Close, Bexhill-on-Sea,
East Sussex TN39 3UY.
stu-art@iname.com
January 29.

From Mr Peter G. Webber

Sir, Having been employed virtually all my working life in the legal profession, I wonder whether the taxpaying *publico* would think it *pro bono* were it to be made aware of the cost so far incurred, and to be incurred, in the implementation of "justice the modern way".

A clear (but comparatively modest) example is the £250 book setting out the new procedures.

Yours faithfully,
PETER G. WEBBER,
22 Bourne Avenue,
Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 6TZ.
January 29.

From Mr Peter Wade

Sir, Latin may be out, but all is not plain English. According to *The Law Society Gazette*, "third party proceedings" is to be replaced by "part 20 claim", and "payment into court" by "part 36 payment".

I am glad we have cleared that up. Come back, Julius Caesar, all is forgiven.

Yours faithfully,
PETER WADE (solicitor),
12 Bell Close,
Colchester, Essex CO2 8EP.
January 29.

From Mr M. D. Hughes

Sir, In the context of the new CPRs, the Government has seen fit — perhaps with justification — to legislate as to the language we lawyers use (for civil procedure rules, for instance).

Do you think it might also be persuaded to legislate against the use of acronyms, so that we can understand everyone else?

Yours sincerely,
M. D. HUGHES,
Middle & Hughes (solicitors),
1a Princes Street,
Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1EN.
January 30.

From Mr Keith Hayday

Sir, I was interested to read that the court system will be using common everyday language in its proceedings from now on.

How nice it would be if computer program writers were to adopt the same convention.

Yours faithfully,
K. HAYDAY,
5 Longleat Crescent,
Chilwell, Nottingham NG9 5ET.
January 29.

Legal aid reforms

From Professor Christie Davies

Sir, The Lord Chancellor (letter, January 25) says that about 40 per cent of solicitors' firms now doing civil legal aid work are not "quality-assured". He proposes to eliminate this group and thus considerably reduce the numbers working in this field. He assures us that this will provide a better service, even though there will be a much narrower choice . I do not agree.

Systems introduced by the State to provide quality-assurance usually provide lower standards of service than those that prevailed before, because they tend to concentrate attention on bureaucratic trivia, such as the state of the files and whether an inspector can find his way through them, often at the expense of more important aspects of the practitioner's task. Vigorous and independent-minded people will, sooner or later, quit rather than work under these conditions.

This will not worry the politicians since I would argue that the purpose of legal aid reform (and reforms affecting other professions) has nothing to do with quality but with saving money, undermining the independence of the professions, and making the central State more powerful.

Our current combination of growing legal and administrative complexity and social decay means that people are more likely to seek legal aid, and the demand for it is almost infinite. The Government is therefore seeking to provide a cheaper and, in my view, inferior service Quality-assurance, franchises and Kitemarks are merely ways of legitimating changes that otherwise would be strongly opposed. Could it also be a coded way of saying: "We want to get rid of practitioners whom we dislike for other reasons"?

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTIE DAVIES
(Co-author, *The Corporation Under Siege*, Social Affairs Unit, 1998),
7 Marlborough Avenue,
Reading, Berkshire RG1 5JB.
January 27.

MEP's departure

From Mr John E. Strafford

Sir, The decision by Tory MEP Tom Spencer to withdraw from this year's European Parliament elections (report, February 1) is clearly right. However, the situation has highlighted the iniquity of the way in which the European elections will be fought.

If Tom Spencer had stood for election the Conservative vote would have been reduced and yet, as he was No 2 on the Conservatives' list, he would not have been affected. Other Conservative candidates further down the list would have had their chances diminished.

This undemocratic method of proportional representation with closed party lists, brought in by a Labour Government whose democratic credentials are suspect, must be exposed so that it is never again used in elections in the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN E. STRAFFORD
(Chairman, Campaign for
Conservative Democracy),
Perama, Fulmer Road,
Gerrards Cross SL9 7EG.

From Mrs Magda Aelvoet, President of the European Parliamentary Green Group

Sir, I must express the European Parliamentary Green Group's sincere disappointment at the departure of Tom Spencer, MEP. Mr Spencer has been an honourable and worthy opponent, and on more than one occasion has worked with our group to achieve more power for the Parliament.

We wish him well and hope he may be given the necessary space to rebuild his life and plan his future.

Yours sincerely,
MAGDA AELVOET,
President, European Parliamentary
Green Group,
European Parliament,
Rue Wiertz, B-1047 Brussels.
maelvoet@europarl.eu.int
February 1.

MI5's German mole

From Mr Nigel West

Sir, Klop Ustinov (report, January 27) was indeed a very useful Security Service agent over many years, but I doubt that he was MI5's mole inside the German Embassy in London in 1938 who gave advance warning of Nazi intentions against Czechoslovakia.

Klop left the embassy in 1935, and in his place recruited Wolfgang zu Putlitz who supplied some extremely useful information to his case officer, (Sir) Dick White.

Zu Putlitz, who subsequently turned out to have been spying for the Soviet Union too, gave a slightly sanitised account of his contribution in his memoirs, *The zu Putlitz Dossier* (Allan Wingate, 1957), which were published after he had fled to East Berlin immediately following the defection in 1951 of his old friend Guy Burgess.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL WEST,
96 Eaton Terrace, SW1W 8UG.
nigel@westintel.co.uk
January 28.

From Mr Dillwyn Miles

Sir, Your report on Klop Ustinov recalls to mind the story told, I believe, by his son, Sir Peter Ustinov.

While still working at the German Embassy, Klop Ustinov secretly applied for British nationality by printing his intention in Welsh in the *Carmarthen Journal*, which defied the expertise of the German Intelligence.

Yours faithfully,
DILLWYN MILES,
Hendre, 9 St Anthony's Way,
Haverfordwest,
Pembrokeshire SA61 1EL.
January 27.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Call to 'embrace' nuclear power

From Sir Christopher Harding and Sir Bernard Ingham

Sir, As chairman and secretary of a newly formed body of individuals, Supporters of Nuclear Energy (SONE), we are trying to encourage the Government to adopt a more realistic approach to the threat of global warming and climatic change.

The Government has set itself exceedingly demanding targets for reducing British greenhouse gas production under the Kyoto agreement. It has committed itself to cut the output of six greenhouse gases by 12.5 per cent on 1990 levels by between 2008 and 2012. It has also a domestic objective of reducing carbon dioxide production to 80 per cent of its 1990 level by 2010.

SONE agrees that substantial reductions in energy use could be achieved if energy conservation were taken seriously and that renewable sources of energy have a part to play (although our Government, like others, grossly overestimates their potential): but the Government's successive writing-off of nuclear power in recent reports and consultative documents seems to us a failure to face up to the implications of the problem.

Nuclear power is the only known, tried and tested and non-polluting means of generating the large amounts of electricity which modern, growing economies require.

We are confident that it is safe, reliable and economic as well as essential to the world's continued development, and we believe that the Government should embrace it as part of a serious, practical response to the economic/environmental challenge of our times.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER HARDING,
BERNARD INGHAM,
Supporters of Nuclear
Energy (SONE),
1 Great George Street,
PO Box 25124, London SW1P 3ZS.
February 1.

Decimal time

From Mr John Chambers

Sir, Eur Ing Michael Pinder (letter, January 28) suggests that we commence a decimal time and date system at the new millennium. In 1792 the French tried using decimal time — with ten hours of 100 minutes of 100 seconds — for two or three years; and a decimal calendar — with a ten-day week — until 1805.

A decimal time system is in everyday scientific use by astronomers and time metrologists. Midnight at the start of January 1, 2000, is Modified Julian Date (MJD) 51544.000 — not very exciting. Our problems will come on August 31, 2132, when the MJD is 99999, followed the next day by 00000.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CHAMBERS
(Research scientist),
Centre for Time Metrology,
National Physical Laboratory,
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LW.
January 29.

Airport angst

From Dr Lindsay Granshaw

Sir, You report (January 28) the arrest of a ten-year-old at Barbados airport because he was wearing camouflage clothing.

When we came through security at Bologna airport last August with our children aged five, seven and nine, we, too, were detained. Sticking out of the children's rucksacks were the barrels of their pump-action, super-soaker orange and blue water pistols.

A high-up official was summoned. "These are too dangerous to go on as hand-luggage," he pronounced. "They must go in the hold."

"But we emptied the water out," piped up our son. "*That* is the trouble," was the cryptic reply.

Yours faithfully,
LINDSAY GRANSHAW,
2 Park Avenue North, N8 7RT.
January 29.

Wigs in court

From Lord Millett

Sir, English judges are an eccentric lot.

When I had a full head of hair, I wore a wig (letters, January 20 and 28). Now I have no hair, I have dispensed with my wig.

Yours sincerely,
MILLETT,
House of Lords.
January 28.

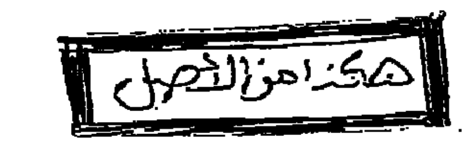
Feline favourite

From Ms Gyll Munday

Sir, My cat responded positively to the recent television commercial designed with cats, not humans, in mind (report, January 27), staring intently at the screen and twitching her ears.

Her subsequent application for a Goldfish card has me worried though.

Yours faithfully,
G. D. MUNDAY,
Old School House,
Alfrick Pound, Worcester WR6 5EZ.
January 28.



SOCIAL NEWS

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, will visit Burrall, Wisbech, at 10.00; as Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, will visit St John's Innovation Centre, at 11.55; and St John's College, at 12.40; and will visit the Oast House and St Faith's, Cambridge, at 2.50.

The Prince of Wales will open the Cavendish Suite in the Haemato-Oncology Unit at Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Royal Hospital, Calow, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, at 10.20.

The Duke of Kent, as president, Wellington College, will visit an art exhibition followed by dinner at the college at 6.30.

Birthdays today

Mr Roger Brooke, chairman, Candover Investments, 68; Mr Ken Bruce, broadcaster, 48; Sir Gordon Bryce, former Chief Justice of the Bahamas, 86; Mr Denis Cassidy, former chairman, Liberty, 66; the Earl of Clarendon, 66; Sir Andrew Davis, conductor, 55; the Rev Dr Victor de Waal, former Dean of Canterbury, 70; Lord Eatwell, 54; Mr Abba Eban, Israeli politician, 84; Dr Tony Flower, a senior Fellow, Institute of Community Studies, 48; Sir Norman Fowler, MP, 61; Sir Ian Gibson, vice-president, Nissan Manufacturing Europe, 52; M Valery Giscard d'Estaing, former President of France, 73; Mr H.V. Hughes, former Principal, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, 73; Mr David Jason, actor, 59; Mr David Jones, chief executive, Next, 56; Sir Chips Keswick, former chairman, Hambros Bank, 59; Dame Alix Meynell, former civil servant, 96; Miss Elaine Stritch, actress, 72.

Meeting

Royal Institute of International Affairs

Mr Alexander Downer, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, was the speaker at a meeting of the Royal Institute of International Affairs held yesterday at Chatham House. The Earl of Limerick presided.

Lecture

Goldsmiths College, University of London

Professor Neil Anderson, Professor of Psychology, will deliver the inaugural lecture 'Employee Selection: Psychological Perspectives and Organisational Practices' at Goldsmiths College tonight. Admission is free. Telephone 0171 919 7957 for further information. Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW.

Reception

HM Government

The Speaker and Mr Charles Clarke, Under Secretary of State for Education and Employment, were the hosts at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lancaster House on the occasion of the 11th World Schools Debating Championships, organised by the English-Speaking Union.

Baroness Brigstocke, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union, and Mrs Valerie Mitchell, director-general, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and participants of the Championships from 31 countries were among those present.

Sir David Lane

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir David Lane will be held at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, on Saturday, March 6, at 2.00pm.

Mr Quentin Crewe

A memorial service for Mr Quentin Crewe will be held at St George's, Hanover Square, London W1, on Thursday, February 18, at noon.

Premium Bonds

The £1 million Premium Bond prize for February 1999 was won by bond number 30YN 427581. The winner comes from Tyne and Wear and has a holding of £20,000.

Luncheon

Rotary Club of London

Mr John Buchanan, President of the Rotary Club of London, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. Dr Ingar Bruggeman was the speaker.

Dinners

Athenaeum

Lord Winston presided at a dinner of the Athenaeum held last night at the club. Rabbi Sidney Brichto was the guest speaker.

Cardiff Business Club

The Hon Francis Maude, Shadow Chancellor, was the guest speaker at a dinner given by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff last night. Mr Brian K. Thomas presided.

Surrey Lieutenancy

The following have been appointed deputy lieutenants of Surrey:

Professor Patrick Dowling, Guildford; Mrs Heather D. Hawker, Weybridge; Mrs Margaret McNaughton, Oxted; Mrs Kit Oliver, Leatherhead; Mr Timothy Prideaux, Abinger Common; Mr Jan van de Pol, Horne.

Leicestershire Lieutenancy

The following have been appointed deputy lieutenants of Leicestershire:

Mr John Philip Aldridge, Great Glen; Mr Richard Louis Brucciani, Leicester; Miss Rosemary Jean Neil Conley, Quorn; Dr Wendy Elizabeth Hickling, Leicester; Mr Jafferhusein Akbarali Kapasi, Oadby; Mr David John Knowles, Loughborough; Mr Brian Anthony Frank Smith, Leicester.

Frink Award 1999

The organisers of the Women of the Year Lunch and Assembly announce that the Frink Award for 1999 will be presented on Tuesday, September 14, at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA), Piccadilly, London W1. The award, which is given to women with disabilities who deserve recognition in the able-bodied world, will this year be in the field of music.

Legal appointments

Mr Jonathan David Perkins (barrister), Mr Keith Kimnell (solicitor) and Mr David Kenneth Allen (barrister) have been appointed full-time Immigration Adjudicators in Greater London. Mr Perkins to be a Special Adjudicator from March 1. Mr Kimnell from April 26 and Mr Allen from June 1.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Wilfred Alexander, Rector, Croft w Southworth (Liverpool): to be Assistant Curate, Croft w Southworth, and Newchurch (same diocese).

The Rev Peter Baden, Vicar, Clifton (Carlisle): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Mosser (same diocese).

The Rev Caroline Baston, Rector, Winchester All Saints w Chilcomb and Chesil, and Diocesan Communications Officer (Winchester): has been appointed Diocesan Director of Ordinands (same diocese).

The Rev Christopher Byworth, Team Rector, St Helens St Helen, and Area Dean of St Helens (Liverpool): to be Canon of Liverpool Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Mark Carey, Curate, Chapeltown St John the Baptist (Sheffield): to be Vicar, Grenoside (same diocese).

The Rev Gregory Clifton-Smith, Assistant Chaplain, Royal Berkshire and Battle Hospital NHS Trust (Oxford): to be Senior Chaplain, St Mary's Hospital, Newport (Portsmouth).

The Rev Graham Drake, Priest-in-Charge, Cockley Cley w Gooderstone, Great Cressingham (LEP) and Little Cressingham w Threxton, Didlington, Hilborough w Bodney, Oxborough w Foulden, and Caldecote and Chaplain, Swaffham Hospital (Norwich): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Mundford w Lynford, and Ickburgh and Langford w Cranwich (same diocese).

The Rev Robin Martin, with permission to officiate (Lichfield): to be NSM Priest-in-Charge, Maesbury (same diocese).

The Rev Rodney Matthews, Vicar, Woodford Bridge St Paul (Chelmsford): has been appointed also Diocesan Chaplain to the Mothers' Union (same diocese).

The Rev Andrew Saunders, Rector, Clutton w. Cameley (Bath & Wells): has been appointed Assistant Curate, Christchurch (Winchester).

The Rev Jeremy Valentine, Vicar, Sand Hutton (York): has been appointed also Rural Dean of Buckrose, and Bulmer, and Malton (same diocese).

The Rev John Ward, Rector, Bolton Abbey (Bradford): has been appointed also Rural Dean of Skipton (same diocese).

The Rev John Widdows, Rector, Guernsey St Michel du Valle (Winchester): to be Rector, Compton and Otterbourne (same diocese).

The Rev Anthea Williams, Priest-in-Charge, Rolvenden (Canterbury): has been appointed also Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands (same diocese).

Retirements and resignations

The Rev Neil Davies, Priest-in-Charge, Reading St Luke and St Bartholomew (Oxford) to resign February 28, 1999.

The Rev Francis Graham-Brown, Team Vicar, Marfleet with special responsibility for St Giles (York): to retire April 30, 1999.

The Rev David Hancock, Priest-in-Charge, Sellindge w. Monks Horton and Stowting and Lymphe w. West Hythe (Canterbury) to resign February 17, 1999.

The Rev Douglas Hare, NSM Curate, Margate Holy Trinity (Canterbury) to retire January 31, 1999.

Other appointments

Jon Reynolds, County adviser for Religious Education and Personal, Social and Health Education for Buckinghamshire County Council: to be Diocesan Director of Education (St Albans).

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Sophie Rhys-Jones, Prince Edward's fiancée, with a JCB toy at the Toy Fair, Olympia, West London, yesterday. JCB, famous for its construction equipment, has branched out into JCB-branded products, including men's casual wear, children's wear and toys. Miss Rhys-Jones's firm handles its public relations

Latest wills

Benny **Green**, jazz musician, of Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, left estate valued at £336,537 net.

Sir Michael **Straker**, farmer, Chairman, Aycliffe and Peterlee Development Corporations, chairman, Northumbrian Water Authority, High Sheriff of Northumberland 1977, of Hexham, Northumberland, left estate valued at £11,650,403 net.

Lady **Nicholson**, of Bodmin, Cornwall, left estate valued at £140,065 net.

Lady **Hogg**, (wife of Sir John Hogg, deputy chairman William and Glyn's Bank, 1970-83), of Shedfield, Southampton, left estate valued at £303,564 net.

Jan Josef Karel **Stekly**, of Cambridge, left estate valued at £11,489,935 net.

Richard Musgrave **Francis**, of Stow-cum-Quy, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £6,535,107 net. He left £200 to both the Parochial Church Councils of Quy and Little Wilbraham

Celia **Amos**, of Old, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £3,720,588 net.

Mark William Hicks **Beach**, of Great Witcombe, Gloucester, left estate valued at £3,278,048 net.

Robert Henry **Lewin**, of Northolt, Middlesex, left estate valued at £3,507,359 net.

John Lloyd **Dawson**, of Huddersfield, left estate valued at £2, 115,352 net.

Agnes Charlotte **Beech**, of Henleaze, Bristol, left estate valued at £1,703,272 net.

Phyllis Audrey **Burdett**, of Sunningdale, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,125,713 net.

Isobel Gilmour **Butters**, of Chalfont St Peters, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,074,969 net.

Dorothy Eleanor **Carroll**, of Turville Heath, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,999,144 net. She left £5,000 to Invalids at Home and to the Injured Jockeys Fund.

Ruth **Carter**, of Tiverton, Devon, left estate valued at £1,448,810 net.

Edward Maxwell **Chamberlain**, company director, of Poole, Dorset, left estate valued at £1,181,272 net.

Paul Arthur Groser **Dixey**, of Great Dunmow, Essex, left estate valued at £1,165,105 net.

Marion **Gaskell** of Wigan, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,686,885 net. She left £5,000 to the Scout Activity Centre, Lochgoilhead, Strathclyde, and shares in her residuary estate to the British Heart Foundation, the Spastics Society, the Stanley Gaskell Foundation and the Marion Gaskell Foundation.

Marion Jean **Harrow** of Southport, Merseyside, left estate valued at £1,108,008 net. She left £50,000 to the Merseyside Association for Kidney Research and £5,000 to the Southport Kidney Treatment Fund.

Milan **Krunic**, of London W14, left estate valued at £1,024,275 net.

John Charles Douglas **Pennant**, of Bangor, Gwynedd, left estate valued at £1,240,118 net.

Truman Henry **Wiltshire**, of Newton Abbot, Devon, left estate valued at £1,011,777 net.

University news

Westminster

The University of Westminster has made the following honorary awards:

Doctor of Letters (honoris causa):

Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, chairman of London First, the group representing the capital's business interests and former chairman of Grand Metropolitan.

Sir John Egan, chief executive of BAA and former chairman and chief executive of Jaguar.

Sir Leonard Peach, Commissioner for Public Appointments and chairman of the University of Westminster Court of Governors.

Doctors of Science (honoris causa):

Dr David Potter, chairman and chief executive of palmtop computer company Psion.

Professor Ian Stewart, director of the Mathematics Awareness Centre, University of Warwick and writer on mathematics.

Doctor of Laws (honoris causa):

Phillip Sycamore, solicitor and former Law Society President.

Honorary Fellows:

Dr Maureen Guirdham, writer on business and management and former head of University of Westminster management centre.

Brian Godbold, director of design at Marks and Spencer.

William Shaw, businessman and governor of the University of Westminster.

Research grants received by the University

Dennis Carroll, £119,976 from Teaching Company Directorate and £56,800 from Addison Lee — Teaching company programme no 2565.

Dr Linda Clarke, £96,979 from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council — Link programme: Standardisation and skills. A transnational study on skills education and training for prefabrication in housing; £85,820 from the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

Dr John Cohen and Dr Chloe Stallibrass, £43,950 from The Foundation for Integrated Medicine — Controlled trial to evaluate the effects of a course of lessons in the Alexander Technique, £25,000 from the Parkinson's Diseases Society — Controlled trial /Alexander technique / management of disability / Parkinson's disease.

Bill Erikson, £189,246 from the Department for International Development (DFID) — Knowledge and research technical transfer.

Professor Christine Evans, £61,685 from Nato — Degradation of chlorophenols by ligninolytic fungi.

Professor Peter Jones, £24,075 from London Transport Planning — Jubilee Line impact study.

Professor Peter Jones and Lucy Hamer, £35,000 from the Health Education Authority — Transport and health needs assessment research.

Dr Izzet Kale, Dr Dik Morling, Dr Arthur Krukowski, Alan Wood and Professor Gerald Cain, £49,000 from Mitsubishi Electric — Consultancy.

Vassilis Konstantinou, £129,464 from Teaching Company Scheme and £52,000 from DCE Communications — Teaching company programme no 2523.

Sara Selwood, £90,000 from the Monument Trust - Culture as Commodity 2,000.

Professor Michael Trevan, £100,735 from Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food — Development of enzymatic time temperature indicators for stored food.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.I. Blomfield and Miss C.V.C. Hart

The engagement is announced between Edward, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ivor Blomfield, of Ditchling, Sussex, and Christa, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Fraser Hart, of Hatherop, Gloucestershire.

Mr S.J.B. Clarke and Miss H.E. Kingston

The engagement is announced between Simon, second son of Mr and Mrs Neil Clarke, of Farnborough, Kent, and Helen, younger daughter of Dr Philip Kingston, of Nailsworth, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Janet Kingston, of Kew, Surrey.

Mr K.O.E. Clifton and Miss M.E.C. Dudley-Williams

The engagement is announced between Kieran, only son of Mr Peter Clifton, of Sydney, Australia, and Mrs Elaine Clifton, of South Kensington, London, and Marina, eldest daughter of Sir Alastair Dudley-Williams, Bt, and Lady Dudley-Williams, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr H.S. Freestone and Miss R.J. Jordan

The engagement is announced between Hugh, youngest son of Dr and Mrs David Freestone, of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, and Rebecca, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Jordan, of Mere, Cheshire.

Mr M.J. Raphael and Ms K.G. Gallacher

The engagement is announced between Marcus John, son of Mr John Basil Raphael and stepson of Mrs Linda Raphael, of Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, and Kathleen Gail, daughter of Mrs Kathleen May Farrall and stepdaughter of Mr Reginald Farrall, of Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire.

Marriage

Mr D.R. Stoddart and Mrs W.A. Tellwright

The marriage took place in London, on Thursday, January 28, between Mr David Stoddart and Jane, widow of Mr Bill Tellwright.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nell Gwyn, actress and mistress of King Charles II, Hereford, 1650; Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord, statesman, Périgord, France, 1754; Henry Havelock Ellis, physician and writer, Croydon, London, 1859; Fritz Kreisler, violinist, Vienna, 1875; James Joyce, novelist, Dublin, 1882; Jascha Heifetz, violinist, Vilna, 1901.

DEATHS: Giovanni Palestrina, composer, Rome, 1594; Francis Hayman, painter, London, 1776; John L. Sullivan, bare knuckle fighter, Abington, Massachusetts, 1918; Sir Owen Seaman, Editor of *Punch* 1906-32, London, 1936; Bertrand Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, mathematician and philosopher, Plas Penrhyn, Merionethshire, 1970; George Whipple, pathologist, Nobel laureate 1934, New York, 1976.

Ireland was represented in the British Parliament for the first time, 1801.

Greece declared war on Turkey, 1878.

The state funeral of Queen Victoria, 1901.

Major-General Idi Amin declared himself the absolute ruler of Uganda, 1971.

The British Embassy in Dublin was besieged and burnt down, 1972.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE; 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23.1-3 (AV).

BIRTHS

BARRELL - On January 18th 1999, to Amanda (née Fearnley) and Julian, a son, Frederick Thomas Montagu, a brother for William and George.

BUDGE - To Lesley (née Hughes) and Richard, on 27th January at home, a daughter, Florence Amelia, a sister for Alice and Eleanor.

BULWER LONG - On 27th January, to Rhona (née Brindley) and Benjamin, a daughter, Letitia.

DOUGLAS - On January 25th at The Portland Hospital to Annette (née Henry) and Michael, a daughter, Amy Rebecca.

FARLEY - On January 29th, to Carole (née Bryan) and Graham, a son, James Henry Matthew, a brother for George.

HARDMAN - On January 31st to Victoria (née Coode) and Hugo, a son.

HILL - On 28th January, to Jane (née Quinn) and Charles, a daughter, Jenny Elizabeth Grace.

KARAVIL - On January 28th at The Portland Hospital to Monique and Freddy, a daughter, Melis, a sister for Enis.

KERSHAW - Suzanne (née Jones) and Alex are proud to announce the birth of a son, Charles Henry Armon, in Geneva on 10th January. A brother for our lovely Jack.

LYWOOD - On January 27th at The John Radcliffe, Oxford, to Henrietta and Jamie, a daughter, Sienna Grace, a sister for Zoë.

MANGION - On Saturday 30th January 1999, to Susannah (née Ball) and Jonathan, a son, William Robert, a brother for Katherine.

MASSEY - On January 29th at The Portland Hospital to Fidrelia and Stephen, a daughter, Eloise, a sister for Lucie and Edward.

BIRTHS

McCARTHY - On 30th January, to Philippa (née Platts) and Myles, a daughter, Eleanor Fleur Landsbrough.

ROBERTS - On 16th January 1999 at Musgrove Park Hospital, Somerset, to Laura (née Reenpää) and Phillip, a son, Charles Walter Reenpää, a brother for Ernest.

WALTERS - On Thursday January 28th, to Clare (née Finch) and Vincent, a daughter, Charlotte Mary.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LEWIN - Lady Lewin and family thank everyone for their kind letters and messages. We are unable to answer them all individually but each one has been very much appreciated.

DEATHS

ALEXANDER - Née Barnett, peacefully at Bridport Community Hospital, Dorset, lately of Steepleton Manor, Christine Agnes aged 90 years. Devoted wife of the late Dr. A.F. O'D Alexander. She will be sadly missed by her much loved and loving family and friends. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium, Dorset on Friday 12th February at 12 noon. Family flowers only please but donations can be made if desired for The British Heart Foundation c/o Grassby Funeral Service, 16 Princes Street, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1TW, tel: 01305 262338.

BELL - On January 30th 1999, Lt. Col. George Jolley Bell MBE TD, of Alderley Edge, Cheshire. All further enquiries to J. Jennings & Son, Chelford Road, Warford, Alderley Edge, Cheshire SK9 7TL, tel: (01625) 584199.

DEATHS

BENSON - Riou Thomas, died peacefully on January 30th at Yeovil Hospital after a short illness aged 85 years. Beloved husband to the late Elizabeth, father of Mark and James, father-in-law to Joy and Kirsten; adored grandfather of Edward, Juliet, Marcus and Giles. Dear great-grandfather to Jack, Finn, Molly, Esme, Max, Isobel and Louise. Funeral at Pitcombe Church, Somerset on Tuesday 9th February at 2.45 pm. Family flowers only; donations if desired to Sexeys Hospital Chapel Fund, Bruton, Somerset.

BROOKS - Phyllis May ("Jane"), peacefully on 1st February at Orford House, Coulsdon in her 99th year. Sister of the late Ronald C. Brooks and much loved Aunt, Great Aunt and Great Great Aunt. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Thursday 11th February at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only.

BURR - Victoria Sophie, aged 26, died on 31st January after a long and brave fight against depression.

CAVA - (Marie-Louise), much loved wife of Andrew (Henry) and adored by daughters Christine and Susan and loved by grandchildren Justin, Sarah and Francesca, passed into eternal rest, peacefully at home on 31st January 1999. Resting at James Summers & Son Roath Court Funeral Home, Newport Road, Cardiff until being received into St Pauls Catholic Church, Cyncoed Road, Cardiff at 5.30 pm on Monday 8th February. Requiem Mass at 10 am on Tuesday 9th February, followed by interment at Western Cemetery. Floral tributes may be sent to the funeral home.

CLIFFORD - Harold aged 77, on 27th January, beloved husband of Sylvia. Former Housemaster at St Lawrence College, Ramsgate; Thanksgiving Service in the Chapel at 2.30pm, Friday 5th February. Donations, if desired, to The Pilgrims Hospice, c/o Blackburns F.S., Broadstairs. 01843 862887.

COOPER - Suddenly but peacefully on 29th January at home in Sheffield, Major John Thomas Herbert Cooper, M.B.E. aged 78 years. Dearly loved and loving husband of Juliana, adored father of George, Margaret, Elizabeth and Pamela, and a much loved father-in-law and grandfather. Service at St George's Chapel, Sheffield Cathedral on Friday 5th February at 2.30 pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only please, but donations made payable to "The York and Lancaster Regimental Association" may be sent to John Heath & Sons, Funeral Directors, Sheffield S4 7LS.

CUSTANCE - Michael Magnus Vere CB, at Midhurst in the afternoon of January 30th peacefully after long illness. Much loved and admired husband, father, stepfather, grandfather and step grandfather. Enquiries to Lintott & Sons (01730) 813264.

DIACONO - Michael Christopher St George suddenly on 28th January aged 47. Funeral at 5pm on Friday 5th February at the Church of St John the Baptist, Northend, Batheaston, Bath. No flowers please. Enquiries to E. Hooper & Sons, 13 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL. Tel: 01225 422040.

DUFFIELD - On January 30th 1999 peacefully at home in Farncombe, Surrey, Thomas Henry Duffield B.E.M. aged 89 years, formerly of Kingsbury, Brent. Beloved husband of the late Ivy and brother of Amy. Funeral Service at Guildford Crematorium on Friday February 5th at 4pm. Enquiries to J. Gorringe & Son Funeral Directors (01483) 416403.

ELLIOTT - Barbara, in hospital on January 30th. Funeral Service at Hutcliffe Wood Crematorium, Sheffield on Monday February 8th at 3.00pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu for the PDSA may be sent to Wood Funeral Service, 848 Ecclesall Road, Sheffield S11 8TP. Telephone 0114 26? 1244.

FARRALL - Robert FIEE, FI Mech E. Late of the Central Electricity Generating Board at the London HQ and Director General in Barnwood, Gloucestershire; and Past President of the Surrey Bowling Association. Died peacefully on January 30th in Thames Ditton. For all who knew him, a funeral service at All Saints' Church, Chestnut Avenue, Weston Green, Esher, Surrey on Friday 5th February at 4pm; and afterwards a reception for all at the Carlton Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court Road, Hampton Court, Surrey. Flowers and enquiries to Frederick W Paine Ltd, 108 High Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 9QJ - tel 01372 464 021. Private cremation for family only on February 6th.

FINLAYSON - Graham Scott, aged 66, photographer died January 28th in France. Cremation at Albi today February 2nd, a memorial service to be held in England will be announced later.

GARTON - Sheelagh, on 30th January 1999, peacefully, aged 81. Much loved wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral on Friday 5th February at 11.30am at St George's RC Church, Taunton. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to St Margaret's Hospice, c/o E White & Sons, 128 East Reach, Taunton, TA1 3HN.

GOODSON - Frank Albert. Peacefully at home on 28th January aged 70. A loving son and father, proud granddad and friend to so many. A generous spirit who enjoyed life and was loved dearly. Funeral Wednesday 10th February at 11.30 am at St Mary's, Wendover and afterwards at Wendover Memorial Hall. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Brian Johnston Memorial Trust (0171 224 1005) or Wendover Health Centre (01296 623452).

GRAY - Major Thomas Edward (Eddie), late of Goring by Sea, Sussex who served with R.E.M.E., R.A.O.C. and the Gold Coast Regiment, on January 30th 1999 in Brentwood, Essex in his 89th year. Husband of the late Irene Evelyn, dear father of Dr Alan Gray and his wife Kathryn and beloved grandfather of Elizabeth and Christopher. Enquiries to BF Mulley & Son of Upminster, 01708 220330.

HEATON - Sheila Helen of Nateby, Garstang, formerly of Hawkshead, died peacefully on January 29th after a short illness aged 77 years. Beloved wife of the late William Heaton, a much loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Private family funeral. All enquiries to L. Stewart and Son 01995-602316.

HEELAS - Michael Leslie, unexpectedly on 28th January. Greatly loved husband of Rosemary, father of Jane, Richard, John and Caroline and adored grandfather. Private family burial. Service of Thanksgiving, 2.30pm Saturday 6th February at St Mary's Church, Great Milton, Oxfordshire. Donations if desired to Great Milton Church or St Lawrence Church, Warborough.

HOOD - Roger Denys, aged 53, of Wimbledon Park, SW18. On 29th January 1999 at St Raphael's Hospice, Sutton, Surrey, after a long valiant fight against cancer. Much loved brother of John and Margaret. Roger's concern for others and his wry sense of humour will be sadly missed by his family and friends, particularly Roy who nursed him through his illness; also by everyone at St Raphael's who found him inspirational in his adversity. Funeral service at 3.30pm, Monday 8th February, Putney Vale Crematorium, London SW15. Donations (in place of flowers at Roger's request please) to St Raphael's Hospice, Sutton, SM3 9DX.

HUSSEIN - Mohamed Iqbal (F.C.A.) died suddenly on 28th January, 1999 aged 56. Much loved husband, father, son and brother. Interment at 1.30pm on Wednesday 3rd February 1999 at North Watford Cemetery. Enquiries 0181 909 3737.

ISAACS - Basil, of Johannesburg and London, passed away on January 29th. Beloved husband of Bella and dear father of Susan, Janet and Andrea.

JAMES - John (Jimmy) on January 29th aged 65. Suddenly on his beloved golf course, the way he would have chosen. Dearly loved and admired father of Lucy and Lisa and much loved partner of Jo; he lit up our lives. Funeral at New Southgate Crematorium, London N11 on Tuesday February 9th at 2 pm.

JONES - Robert Kenneth on January 28th 1999 in Chester. Dearly beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother. Private family funeral. No flowers. Donations to The British Diabetic Association, 10 Queen Anne Street, London W1.

KIMBER - (Dick) Richard Morris peacefully at home on January 30th 1999 in his 91st year. Thanksgiving Service St John the Baptist, Little Marlow, Monday February 8th 12.30 pm.

LANDALE - Brigadier Charles Anthony (Tony) R.E. Died suddenly at home on January 29th aged 74. Very dear Husband of Tessa, much loved father, stepfather, grandfather and friend to so many. Private family cremation, thanksgiving service at Coombe Bissett Parish Church on Saturday February 27th at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if desired for the RSPB and sent to R T Adlem, funeral director, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

LEIGH - Marion. On 28th January, peacefully at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, aged 86, widow of Walter, sister of John, mother of Julian, Veronica and Andrew and grandmother of Jacob, Rebecca, Adam, Ben and Alexandra. Funeral Service to be held at Kingstone Crematorium, Bonner Hill Road, on 3rd February at 1.40pm. Donations to the Alzheimers Society or flowers and enquiries to A France & Son, tel 0171 405 4901.

OWEN - Suddenly at home on January 28th 1999, Prof Alan Ernest, beloved husband of Barbara, much loved father of Rod, Gary, Stephen and Hilary and dear grandfather of Helen, Stuart, Neil, Kirsten, Olivia, Grace, Amy, Daniel and Matthew. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium Main Chapel, Edinburgh on Thursday February 4th at 2 pm to which all friends are invited. Family flowers only please.

PETERS - After a long decline, Cecil Peters (née Tindall, formerly Glanville) died painlessly 27th January 1999 leaving Rodie, Ranulph, Niall, Severi and Aartje. Arrangements: Peter Taylor 01603 760787.

PORTEOUS - Vivian Francis Lt. Col. R.A. (retired), died peacefully on 31st January aged 91. Dearly beloved husband of Diana, much loved father of Susan, Jane, Robin, Peter and Mary and loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Requiem Mass at Our Lady's RC Church, Marnhull, Dorset on Saturday February 6th at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Cafod c/o Bracher Bros., Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4QL.

PYEMONT - Ruth on January 31st, aged 90, much loved wife of Wilfrid and very special mother of David, Peter, April, Claire, Angela, Camilla and Christopher. A wonderful grandmother and great-grandmother, she will be hugely missed by us all.

ROAKE - Wilfred Nigel died peacefully January 31st 1999, aged 94, at the Downs House, Petersfield. Devoted husband of the late Win and much loved father of Pearl and Alan. Dearest grandfather of Philippa, Amanda, Robin, Sarah and Richard and great grandfather of Hew and Natasha. Funeral Service at St Mary Magdalene, Sheet, Petersfield on February 8th 1999 at 2.15pm. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Funeral Services (Petersfield) Ltd, 01730 262711.

SAUNDERS - Joseph William (John) peacefully on 30th January at Teme House Cheltenham, aged 90 years. Formerly of Kirkham Grammar School, The Intelligence Corps and The Royal Wolverhampton School. Much loved husband of Winifred and father of Andrew, Jo and Richard. Funeral at Cheltenham Crematorium on Thursday 4th February at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations to Save the Children, c/o Mason and Stokes, 54 Hewlett Road, Cheltenham.

WESTON - Kathleen Minnie Elizabeth, widow of Kenneth Southwold Weston and much loved mother of Mark. Died at home in Wimbledon on January 28th 1999. Funeral for family and closest friends at Bromham Parish Church, Wiltshire, on Friday February 5th. Family flowers only but any donations to The Cancer Research Campaign, The Cancer Relief McMillan Fund or National Osteoporosis Society, c/o Ashtons Funeral Services, 140 Alexandra Road, SW19 7JY.0181-946 1051. A Memorial Service will be held at St Marys Church, Wimbledon at a later date.

WILLIAMS - On January 31st at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a valiant struggle, Stephen, beloved husband of Jill, devoted father of Simon, of St Hilary. Funeral Saturday February 6th, requiem mass 11.30 am at St Cadoc's RC Church, Cowbridge, followed by burial at St Hilary Churchyard. Family flowers only may be sent to the private funeral home W James & Sons Fonmon. Donations in lieu if desired to ICU Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

WILLIAMS - Barry Macintosh, much loved Husband of Sheila and Father of Gerald, Paul and Martin died peacefully at home on 31st January 1999 aged 88. Family cremation. Memorial service at All Saints Brenchley on Friday, 5th February 1999 at 11.15 am. Family flowers only.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

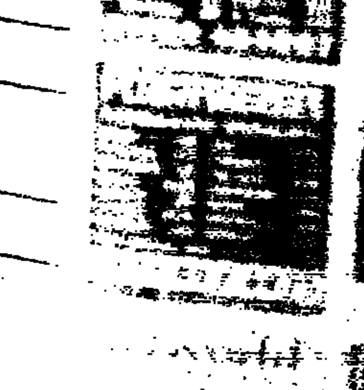
METHVEN - Donald. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held to celebrate the life of Donald James Methven at St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London EC2, on Wednesday, 24th February at 11.30am. Everybody will be welcome to join the family afterwards at Grocers' Hall, Princes Street.

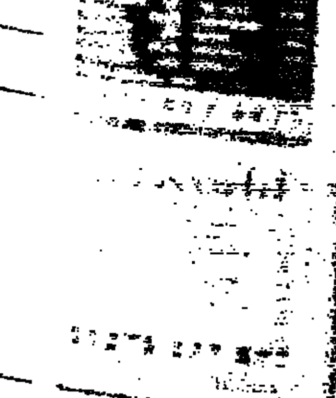
IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

HURST - Barbara 2nd February 1998. Most lovingly remembered and greatly missed especially today. Always in our hearts. Derek and Peter.

SERVICES









MARION BOYARS

Marion Boyars, publisher, died yesterday aged 71. She was born on October 26, 1927.

Marion Boyars was one of the last of a generation of independent British publishers with an international outlook. Her house boasted five Nobel prizewinners and included works translated from more than 20 languages.

Marion Asmus was born in Germany, where her father was an avant garde art-book publisher. She was educated in Switzerland and, while in her teens, emigrated to New York. Later, in the 1950s, she took a degree in PPE at Keele University: "I was one of its first students. They called us the gumboot generation."

Her first marriage was to George Lobbenberg, a prosperous American foundation garment manufacturer, with whom she had two daughters.

In 1960 Boyars answered a box advertisement in *The Bookseller* which had been placed by the maverick independent publisher John Calder, who was seeking new equity for his company. Calder's list included Samuel Beckett, Marguerite Duras and Eugene Ionesco.

Boyars met Calder, along with her financial adviser, and they established a partnership which started at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 1960, became known as Calder and Boyars in 1964 and which lasted until 1980. "I liked John," she said. "I could see there was integrity. It shone through. I bought 50 per cent of the firm. I didn't know very much about publishing, and it would have been extremely presumptuous of me to go in and say 'I am a publisher now.' I really felt I had to learn the business, which I did."



Marion Boyars in the 1960s, when she bought into John Calder's publishing firm

Calder and Boyars prospered in Soho during the 1960s. They published a good spread of authors, notably introducing to a British readership the French *nouveau roman* writers Claude Simon, Alain Robbe-Grillet, Michel Butor and Nathalie Sarraute, together with Elias Canetti, Heinrich Böll and other equally distinguished European names. In the field of music they published the composers Stravinsky, John Cage and Charles Ives. The list had a radical political edge to it as well, publishing Ivan Illic and other left-leaning social thinkers.

In 1966 Calder and Boyars achieved worldwide attention when they were taken to court for publishing an obscene libel with the novel *Last Exit to Brooklyn* by Hubert Selby Jr. Robert Maxwell appeared as a witness for the prosecution in the original trial. John Mortimer then acted as QC for the defence in a successful appeal in 1968.

Over the years the two partners became increasingly disenchanted with one another. They began to dissolve the company in 1975, but such were their disagreements that it took five years for this process to be completed. Relations deteriorated so far that another publisher, Peter du Sautoy from Faber's, was brought in to divide the list between them.

For a few years more Boyars and Calder kept their respective publishing houses in the same premises at 18 Brewer Street, W1, with Boyars on the top floor and Calder in the offices below. Then finally in 1984 Boyars and her staff decamped to new premises in Putney — a small terrace house near the Thames. Earlier she had opened a small New York office on East 39th Street.

With her second husband, Arthur Boyars, whom she married in the early 1960s, she became something of a fixture on the London and international publishing scene, whether at a packed reading at the Riverside Studios by the Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko (another of her authors) or at the Frankfurt Book Fair. In the past two years, the couple also attended translating conferences in Oslo and Athens, where Marion Boyars was substituted at the last moment for another British publisher, and spoke brilliantly about her firm.

In all, Marion Boyars published about 500 titles under her own imprint. Ken Kesey's bestselling novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* helped to subsidise slower-selling titles. Other Boyars authors include Julien Green, Eudora Welty, Georges Bataille, Ingmar Bergman and Julio Cortazar. Modern composers on the list included Erik Satie, Leon Janacek, Luciano Berio and Karlheinz Stockhausen.

The *New Yorker* film writer Pauline Kael provided some critical and commercial successes, and Michael Ondaatje, on winning the Booker Prize for *The English Patient* — published by another house — publicly acknowledged Boyars's role in launching his career.

A small, intense woman, Boyars was passionate about literature and the writers she published, claiming never to publish a book she did not like. She was loyal not only to her writers — many of whom became friends — but to a much wider circle. She was amusing company.

Marion Boyars is survived by her husband Arthur and by two daughters, one of whom now runs the publishing house.

PROFESSOR CHARLES SHUTE

Charles Shute, former Professor of Histology at Cambridge, died in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 2 aged 81. He was born in London on May 23, 1917.

SOME academics restrict themselves to a single field throughout their lives. Charles Shute was not one of them. In his principal career he contributed significantly to comparative anatomy and neuroscience, but his interests ranged from mathematics to Japanese art and Egyptology.

As a child, Charles Cameron Donald Shute had little contact with either of his parents. His mother departed for America when he was two, taking his elder sister with her but leaving him behind. His father, like his grandfather, who fought at Balaclava and later became MP for Brighton, was a military man, and rather remote. So Charles's care was entrusted to his godmother, Kathleen Crosse. It was in the grounds of her large Surrey house that he discovered the joys of gardening, but his happiest times were spent with her niece, Clara Aspinall. This young woman looked upon him as the son she had never had, and her two daughters, Pat and Ruth, regarded him as their brother.

He was a King's Scholar at Eton, where he rowed twice in the Fourth of June Procession. He then went up to King's College, Cambridge, as a mathematical exhibitioner and later a scholar.

He read English for two years and moral sciences in his third year, taking a first. He left Cambridge in 1939 and, when war broke out, he joined the Friends' Ambulance Service as a conscientious objector. This ignited his interest in the medical sciences, and he returned to Cambridge for pre-clinical training before moving to the Middlesex Hospital, qualifying as a doctor in 1945.

After resident surgical posts at the Middlesex, he spent two years in the Royal Army Medical Corps, where he trained as a clinical otologist. Armed with a diploma in laryngology and otology and a specialist knowledge of the ear, Shute launched his academic career by joining the teaching staff of the anatomy department at the London Hospital Medical College in 1951.

There he collaborated fruitfully with Professor Angus Bellairs in the field of comparative anatomy, with special reference to the ear and the closely associated jaw joint. They enjoyed the personal encouragement of their head of department, the late Professor Dixon Boyd, so that in the following year when Boyd moved to the better-funded laboratories in Cambridge, he took both with him. Shute's career progressed well in Cambridge, and he was elected a fellow of Christ's in 1957, successfully submitting his thesis for the MD degree in 1958.



By 1960, the direction of his research had changed. He retained his interest in comparative anatomy, but began to apply it to the brain. He started a new collaborative programme with Peter Lewis, who had been appointed by Boyd to promote histochemical studies in the anatomy department. They had complementary skills and produced a series of pioneering papers on the undescribed cholinergic pathways in the rat, which served as a model for other mammalian brains, including the human. Within these papers, the most significant discovery was what they termed the "cholinergic ascending reticular pathway", malfunction of which has in recent years been implicated as the likely basis for Alzheimer's disease.

After serving for a time as acting head of anatomy, Shute was appointed reader in neuroanatomy in 1969. He never took up the post, however, for he was appointed from the same date to the chair of histology in the department of physiology. Despite heavy administrative burdens and attempts at teaching reorganisation, he maintained his research output, but his interest transferred to the psychophysics of vision, which he saw as an extension of his work on the brain's cholinergic pathways.

Shute had an incisive mind and an unconventional approach to life. Possessed of considerable charm, an unfailing sense of humour and an often dry wit, he was nevertheless not one to conceal his own views. As an administrator he showed a strong desire to restructure from the bottom. This is never an easy matter at Cambridge, and not all his attempts at curricular and departmental reform were universally welcomed.

In 1984 he retired from the chair of histology but his marriage to Gay Robins, a research fellow in Egyptology at Christ's College, together with his innate quest for knowledge and his early training in the humanities, led to a new phase of his career, as an Etyptologist. He quickly mastered the basics of the subject and thereafter collaborated with his wife on a number of scholarly projects.

After retirement Shute continued to play an active role at Christ's College, but the last ten years of his life were spent in Atlanta, Georgia, where his wife had taken up an appointment in art history at Emory University. He continued to publish in Egyptological journals, as well as finding time for poetry (which he produced, and occasionally published, throughout his life) and gardening. He also led tours, particularly for children, around the galleries of ancient art at Emory.

Charles Shute was three times married. His first wife was Patricia Cameron (née Doran), whom he married in 1947 and who died in 1952. Then in 1954 he married Lydia May (née Harwood), but they divorced in 1980. In that year he married Gay Robins, who survives him, along with the son and three daughters of his second marriage.

OTTO KOENIGSBERGER

Otto Koenigsberger, planning consultant, died on January 3 aged 90. He was born on October 13, 1908.

FACED with the daunting problems of housing, squalor and population growth in the sprawling cities of India in the postwar years, Otto Koenigsberger realised that the rigidities of Western planners were inappropriate.

At Independence, India inherited the planning attitudes of the British Town and Country Planning Act, with its master plans prescribing the shape and size of cities for decades ahead; but these practices and controls were unworkable in such very different circumstances.

So Koenigsberger devised a more dynamic approach for the Third World, which aims to safeguard certain environmental ideals while allowing for the needs of, say, refugees or rapidly doubling populations. It was based on private and public sector co-operation, negotiation and partnership.

Koenigsberger's work with Charles Abrams, the Professor of Planning at Columbia University, resulted in important recommendations for such diverse places as Pakistan, Nigeria and Singapore, and eventually it was codified as Action Planning, a mechanism responsive to the urgent and acute problems of countries undergoing economic and social change.

The son of an architect, Otto Koenigsberger was born in Berlin, where he was educated at the Technical University. After gaining his diploma he worked as an assistant in the Prussian Government Service, winning the Schinkel Prize in 1933. But in the same year he was dismissed from government service by Hitler's regime, and took up an appointment as an archaeologist under Ludwin Borchardt in Egypt. There, he completed a doctorate on the construction of the Ancient Egyptian door.

In 1939 he elected to take up the offer of the post of chief architect and planner to the then Maharaja of Mysore. At the outbreak of war he was briefly interned by the British authorities, but he was soon released to pursue his design and planning duties. The next nine years proved to be productive and satisfying, culminating in the planning of Bhubaneshwar, the new state capital of Orissa.

The Indian Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, was largely responsible for appointing Koenigsberger director of housing for the federal Government in 1948, and subsequently he supported his application for Indian citizenship. During Koenigsberger's four years in Delhi he planned six new towns.

In 1951 Koenigsberger came to Britain as adviser to the chief architect and planner for Basildon New Town before moving to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine as a housing researcher. Although he had trained a number of architects and planners who had passed through his office during his period in India, he had not been formally engaged in education.

A conference at University College London in 1953 resulted in the establishment of the department of tropical architecture at the Architectural Association in London, which Koenigsberger was invited to head. Later it became the department of development and tropical studies, and in 1971 it transferred to University College London, as the Development Planning Unit, which specialises in Third World urban development.

During the 1960s and 1970s Koenigsberger did a great deal of consultancy work for the United Nations. He also published his *Manual of Tropical Housing: Climatic Design* (1974). He retired from the unit in 1976, but continued working as the first editor of *Habitat International* from 1976 until the early 1990s.

Koenigsberger received many honours and awards. Most poignantly, some 40 years after having been obliged to leave the country of his birth, he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Stuttgart. In 1987, the international year of shelter for the homeless, he was one of the first two recipients of the UN's Habitat Scroll of Honour.

Otto Koenigsberger leaves his widow, Renate.

ROSALIND RAMIREZ

Rosalind Ramirez, teacher and governess, died on January 28 aged 87. She was born on January 14, 1912.

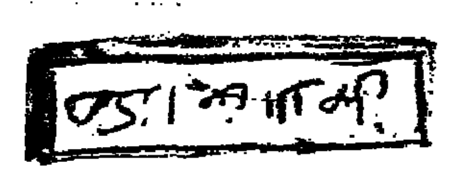
BRINGING UP young children requires the same patient and devoted care everywhere in the world, and it was the quality of exemplary love of the young that made Rosalind Ramirez a fine governess and teacher in two Royal Families, first in Iraq and then in Britain.

In the depths of the Second World War, Ramirez, who was already well travelled, was invited to become governess to King Faisal II of Iraq, then seven years old, to prepare him for entrance to English schooling. After an arduous journey, she reached Baghdad early in 1943. There she spent some of the happiest years of her life.

Faisal was a cousin of King Hussein of Jordan, whose father Tallal had met Ramirez 11 years earlier in Palestine. Ramirez kept in regular contact with Faisal throughout his short life, which ended tragically with the assassination of the Royal Family and several political leaders in the 1958 coup.

Returning to London after the war, Ramirez accepted a job as a schools inspector, but she did not join the inspectorate until 1950, because Queen Mary intervened. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and their two young sons were just returning from Australia, where the Duke had been Governor-General. The then Queen Mother asked Ramirez to become governess to her grandsons, the Princes William and Richard; so she set up a small school for them and some other young children near the Gloucesters' home outside Peterborough. (Years later, Prince William was killed in a plane crash.)

Born in Acton, West London, Rosalind Ramirez had spent her childhood years in South America, where her mother had remarried a Chilean named Ramirez. From 1924 to 1929 she went to secondary school in Ramsgate, where she came to know Kenneth and Margaret Warner, and in 1928 she became their adopted daughter. Kenneth Warner was curate of Ramsgate, and years later became Bishop of Edinburgh. From Ramsgate, Rosalind went to Cheltenham Ladies' College to finish her education and began a long association with the town.



After leaving school, she joined the family in Palestine, and spent a year travelling in Syria and Jordan. She also taught the two young Warner girls.

From 1932 to 1935 she took a Froebal teacher training course in London, where she met Ann Driver, who was teaching music and movement to very young children and who later became well known as a pioneer in the use of BBC radio broadcasts to schools. They became close friends and in 1955 collaborated in writing *Something Particular*, which was commended as "the most beautiful book of the year".

During the later 1930s Ramirez taught young children in deprived parts of London, Glasgow and Edinburgh. She then moved to teach in France, from where she was evacuated in 1940, and at Repton Junior School, 1940-42. Having worked for two royal families, she finally took up her appointment as a schools inspector in 1950, working in the Midlands until 1974. She moved to her beloved Cheltenham in 1967, and joined the Cheltenham Civic Society and the Cercle Français de Cheltenham.

In retirement she maintained her interests in education, the Middle East, French and Spanish, as well as drama and poetry. She was a keen member of the the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the British Association for Early Childhood Education. She was also a trustee of the Ann Driver Trust, which offers awards for further study and projects to young people interested in music and the arts.

She never married.

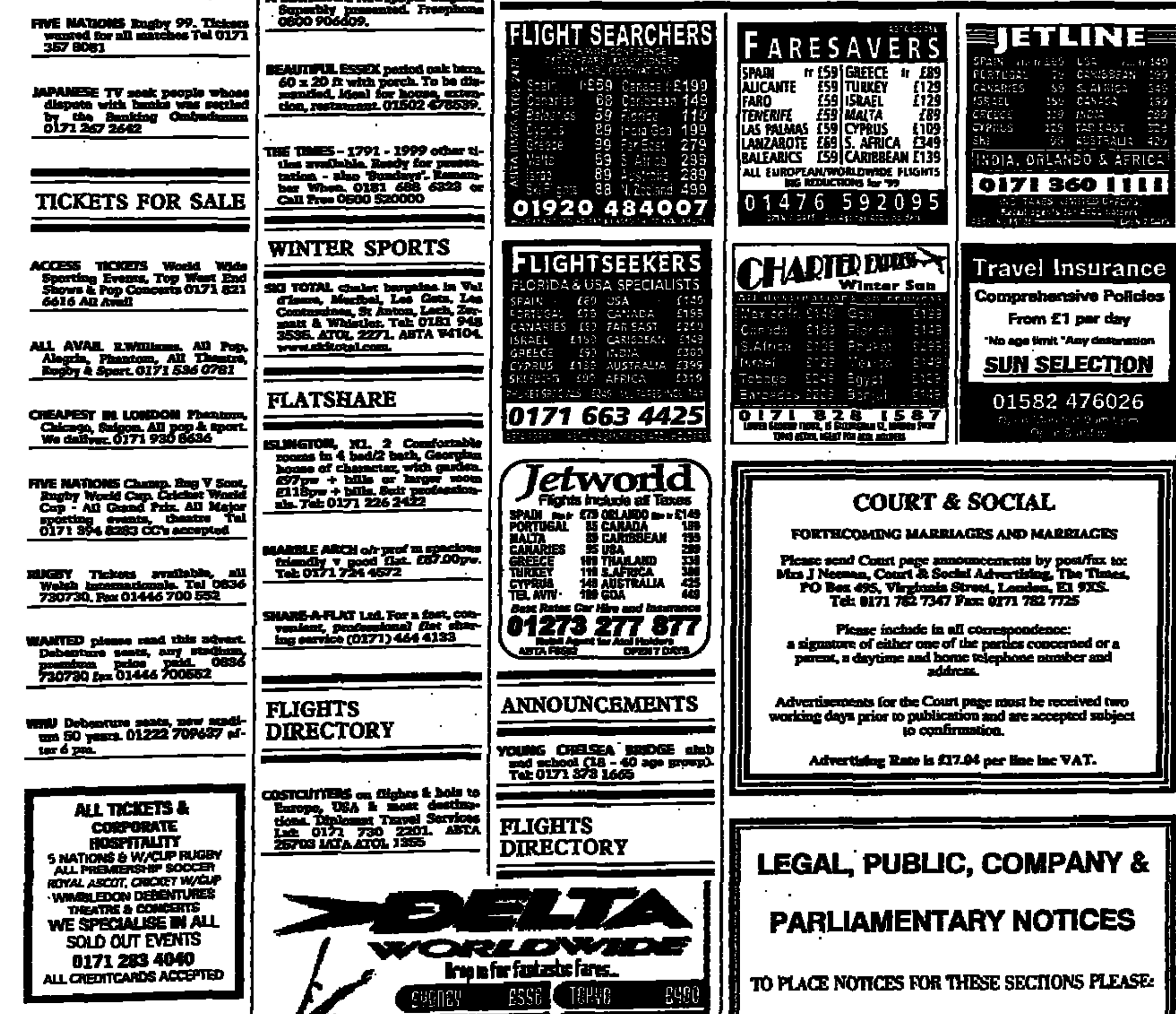
ON THIS DAY

February 2, 1895

Although skaters were out in their thousands on the ponds in and around London, there was not enough work clearing snow for many of the unemployed.

THE FROST AND SNOW

The weather yesterday morning was again very cold, both over the British Islands and the Continent. In London the thermometer did not rise above 29deg all day. The air last night was, however, distinctly more humid than of late, and very slight rain fell for a few minutes. On the Round Pond, Kensington Gardens, there was splendid skating yesterday. Among the 12,000 people who were on it, at least 500 were ladies, and of these about a dozen were in skating costume, three ladies wearing the smart befurred turbans and tunics which are associated with the sport in Canada. There was a novelty in the skating on the Round Pond in the rapid runs made by three boys from the Cripples' School, South Kensington. The lads had each only one leg, but they careered over the ice with ease and were cheered by the onlookers. From Regent's Park the following report was made last night by the deputy superintendent: — "The ice is in fair condition, but rough in places. Today there were upon it between 7,000 and 8,000 skaters and sliders. No accidents." From the Welsh Harp, Hendon, came the following report: — "The ice is good: 300 people have been on it." Inspectors Pope and Kitch had a large force of police around the Serpentine to keep all people off it. The ice in Finsbury, Clissold and Victoria Parks was found yesterday morning to be covered with four inches of snow. Special gangs of labourers were engaged to clear this away, and after a few hours' delay skating was resumed. The flooded meadow at Spring-hill affords the best and safest skating ground in the district, and nightly floodings have kept the ice in fine condition. In Battersea Park yesterday the fine ornamental lakes were again open to skaters up to 7pm, and were visited by several thousand persons. The County Council's men are in constant attendance ready for an emergency. There was some excitement yesterday morning at the St George's, Hanover Square, depot, where 700 or 800 unemployed men presented themselves for work to clear the snow from the footpaths. Only about 400 could be engaged, and the disappointment which followed led to some very disorderly scenes. Several men were severely injured in the struggle. At the Belvedere Road depot of the Lambeth Vestry large gangs were taken on, but here too, many were refused. One man in the crush to get to the yard fainted, and soon afterwards expired.



Chancery Division

Law Report February 2 1999

Repayments of stamp duty

M&G Securities Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners
Schroder Unit Trusts Ltd v Same

Before Mr Justice Park

[Judgment January 21]

Managers of unit trusts were entitled to repayments of stamp duty by virtue of section 54(4) of the Finance Act 1946 in circumstances where a holder of units in the trust instead of selling them for cash, exercised his right to request that in return for cancellation of the units he receive a transfer of investments and cash out of the underlying portfolio of the trust.

Mr Justice Park so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on originating summonses concerning the construction of section 54(4) of the 1946 Act and upholding claims for repayment of £189,637 ad valorem duty by M & G Securities Ltd and £5,582,454 by Schroder Unit Trusts Ltd.

Section 54 of the 1946 Act provides: "(4) Where a unit under a unit trust scheme is transferred to the managers by an instrument of transfer duly stamped and, before the expiration of two months from the date of the transfer the managers and trustees jointly certify - (a) that the certificate, if any, in respect of the unit has been cancelled; and (b) that, as a consequence of the transfer, a proportionate part of the trust property has been realised, and the trust property diminished accordingly; and (c) the unit is extinguished ... the commissioners shall, on the application of the person by or on behalf of whom the duty was paid and on production to them of the instrument of transfer and of the joint certificate of the managers and trustees, refund the duty."

Mr Christopher McCall, QC, for M & G Securities; Mr Kevin Prosser, QC for Schroder Unit Trusts; Mr Launcelot Henderson, QC and Mr Christoper Tidmarsh for the Revenue.

MR JUSTICE PARK said that M & G was the manager of a unit trust fund. An owner of a large holding of units in the fund, instead of selling them for cash, exercised a right under the trust deed to take an in specie redemption: that was on cancellation of his units, to receive a transfer of investments and cash out of the underlying portfolio.

To exercise that right the unit holder had to make to M & G, as manager of the trust, a written request for the redemption. That document was required by section 57(3) of the Act to be stamped ad valorem.

M & G paid £189,637. It claimed repayment, contending that the conditions set out in section 54(4) were fulfilled. The Revenue did not accept that they were.

The facts in Schroder's case were in principle the same: the point arising as respected three unit trusts of which Schroder was the manager. In all the trusts involved the trustee was Lloyds Bank plc.

The question was whether the reference in section 54(4)(b) to a "proportionate part of the trust property" being realised was a reference to the trustees of the unit trust selling for cash investments which it held as part of the trust fund or rather was a reference to the unit holder realising his interest by surrendering it to the trustee in return for a distribution of investments and cash from the trustee.

The Revenue said the former; M & G and Schroder the latter. Although the law had been in the present form since 1946, these cases were the first time that the question had arisen.

When a unit holder wanted to realise his units normally he wanted cash for them and that was what the managers paid him.

But a unit holder was the owner of an undivided share in the investments and cash which from time to time comprised the fund of the unit trust and those with reasonably substantial holdings were permitted under their unit trust deeds to surrender their units, not in return for their cash value, but in return for a distribution of a proportionate part of the underlying investments of the trust fund.

Section 57(3) created a deemed sale, providing that where a holder "authorised ... the managers to treat him as no longer interested in a unit" there was a deemed transfer of the unit to the managers and the instrument of authority was stamped as a transfer on sale.

The arguments arose under section 54(4)(b), the other requirements of the subsection not being in dispute.

It was agreed that on the redemptions the trust property was diminished, but the Revenue said that a proportionate part of the trust property had not been realised.

Mr Henderson argued that those words referred to realisations by the trustees, and required the trustees to convert into cash, or an equivalent to cash, a proportion of the property comprised in the trust fund.

Typically that would be achieved by sales of investments for cash on the open market.

But where, said Mr Henderson, units were redeemed in specie the trustees did not realise anything: they simply transferred assets in their existing unrealised state to the former unit holders and condition (b) was not satisfied.

M & G and Schroder disagreed. They said that the reference to a proportionate part of the trust property being realised was a reference to the realisation by the unit holder of their units, the realisation taking the form of the unit holders exchanging their units for specific investments and sums of cash.

On that interpretation the specie redemptions satisfied condition (b).

Having assimilated the scheme of the legislation as a whole and appreciating the role which section 54(4) performed, the construction for which M & G and Schroder contended was correct.

The Revenue's interpretation was quite remarkably severe in its impact on unit trust managers. When unit holders wrote exercising their rights to require redemptions in specie the managers had to pay duty.

On the Revenue's argument there was no possibility of their obtaining any relief or recovering their outlays of duty either from the trustees or the former unit holders.

Parliament had intended to equate the stamp duty treatment of units with that of shares. If, however, the Revenue were right, Parliament had imposed a stamp duty cost in respect of units where there was none for the equivalent transaction in shares.

If a shareholder redeemed his shares, for example on a redemption of redeemable preference shares, no duty was payable on the transaction, since it was an extinction of the shares, not a transfer on sale of them.

The result contended for by M & G and Schroder was far more likely to have been the one which Parliament intended, or would have intended if it had applied its mind to the matter.

The case was not an easy one. The subject matter was technical and esoteric. By no means all the arguments pointed in the same direction and there were considerations of substance supporting the Revenue's case.

But the balance came down clearly in favour of the managers and the orders they requested for repayment with interest would be made.

Solicitors: Rowe & Maw; Eversheds; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Committing absent accused for trial

Regina v Liverpool City Magistrates Court, Ex parte Quantrell

Before Lord Justice Buxton and Mr Justice Collins

[Judgment January 19]

Where, through his legal representative, an accused asked a magistrates court to commit him to trial in his absence on the ground of his ill health, section 4(4) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 did not restrict the justices to allowing only evidence to come before them and they could proceed to commit under section 6(2) of the Act.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in refusing the application of John Quantrell for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash the decision of Liverpool Justices of October 15, 1998 to refuse to commit him for trial in his absence. The applicant had been charged under the Child Abduction Act 1984. Because of illness he was unable to travel to the court for the committal hearing. It was nevertheless his desire that proceedings should continue quickly and efficiently.

It was submitted on his behalf before the justices that he could be committed under section 6(2) of the 1980 Act in his absence

. However, section 6(2) made no reference to committal in the accused's absence and section 4(4) referred only to receiving evidence when the accused was absent.

Section 4 of the 1980 Act provides:

"(4) Examining justices may allow evidence to be given before them in the absence of the accused if ... (b) he cannot be present for reasons of health but is represented by a legal representative and has consented to the evidence being given in his absence."

Section 6 provides: "(2) A magistrates court inquiring into an offence as examining justices may ... commit the accused for trial for the offence without consideration of the contents of those statements, unless - (a) the accused ... has no legal representative ... or (b) ... [the accused] has requested the court to consider a submission that the statements disclose insufficient evidence to put the accused on trial by jury for the offence."

Mr Michael Scholes for the applicant; the justices did not apepar and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE BUXTON said that according to the justices the actual decision to commit might not be taken in the absence of the accused. There was no liberty for the justices to make that decision when the accused was not there.

His Lordship could not agree to that construction of section 6(2). The justices were not obliged to proceed if the accused was not present but they were wrong in this case in believing that they were prevented from committing the accused by having no liberty to do so.

Although his Lordship appreciated the care given to the matter by the justices' clerk he did not agree with the conclusion that the justices had not been free to proceed with committal in the absence of the accused.

His Lordship's judgment went no further than to say that the justices had not been inhibited. They were not obliged to proceed.

Mr Justice Collins agreed.

Solicitors: Maidments, Liverpool.

Court of Appeal

Solicitors not liable over forgery

Midland Bank plc v Cox McQueen (a Firm)

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Mummery and Lord Justice Mantell

[Judgment January 26]

Solicitors retained by a bank to obtain the signature of a customer's wife to a legal charge were not liable for non-performance of that retainer where the signature obtained was a forgery as the obligation which they had accepted was merely to exercise a reasonable standard of care in relation to that task.

If the bank had wished to impose an absolute liability on the solicitors it should have done so in clear terms so that the solicitors appreciated the extent of the obligation which they were accepting.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the appeal of the plaintiffs, Midland Bank plc, against the dismissal by Judge Perrett, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, on November 28, 1997 of its claim against the defendant firm of solicitors, Cox McQueen, for, inter alia, damages for non-performance of retainer.

Mr Nicholas Stewart, QC and Mr Hugh Mercer for the bank; Mr Alastair Norris, QC, for the solicitors.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal raised a point of some importance as to the extent of the obligation on solicitors when they were retained by a bank in connection with the execution of a charge by the wife of a customer of the bank and her signature was forged.

From 1970 Mr Dukes and his family company were customers of the bank. His wife was the sole owner of a house. No one at the bank had met Mrs Dukes.

In 1985 the limit on the family company's overdraft had been increased. In return Mr Dukes had deposited with the bank the deeds and conveyances of the house and a letter of consent which purported to have been signed by Mrs Dukes in the presence of a different firm of solicitors from the defendants.

In fact that document had not been signed by Mrs Dukes but by someone else and Mrs Dukes had thought the documents were being deposited at the bank for safe keeping.

In 1987 Mr Dukes had persuaded the bank to lend him money on the security of the house to enable him to pay off the debts the company owed to the bank. The security for the loan was to be an "all moneys" security, not only for existing but also for future indebtedness. That involved recharging the house.

The bank had been well aware that it would be necessary for Mrs Dukes to have independent legal advice before she executed the security. That had led to the solicitors being retained by the bank, on the nomination of Mr Dukes for whom they had previously acted.

The bank had written to the solicitors in the following terms: "You act for our above-mentioned customer, who will be calling shortly in connection with a loan we are advancing to repay existing borrowings. I should be grateful if you would also act on our behalf by obtaining the signatures of Mr and Mrs Dukes to the various documents shown below ... To be signed by Mrs Dukes: First legal mortgage."

The document described as the first legal mortgage also included the following certificate to be signed by the solicitors: "We hereby certify that the contents of this document have been fully explained to Mrs Dukes that she fully understands the portent and has signed this document of her own free will."

The documents were returned to the bank apparently properly completed. The solicitors invoiced the bank for £23 for their services.

Four and a half years later the bank had sought to rely on their charge and had discovered that it had not been signed by Mrs Dukes but by an imposter who had been introduced by Mr Dukes to the solicitors as his wife.

The bank had originally advanced its case against the solicitors under four different heads: (a) negligence or breach of the implied duty to carry out the retainer with reasonable care and skill; (b) breach of warranty of authority; (c) non-performance of the retainer; and (d) breach of the warranty contained in the certificate on the charge.

The judge had dismissed all those allegations. The argument of the bank on the appeal had primarily been based on the alleged non-performance by the solicitors of their retainer.

The bank had submitted that the terms of the bank's letter were unqualified. It had required the solicitors to obtain the signatures of Mr and Mrs Dukes to the various documents.

The solicitors had not obtained Mrs Dukes' signature but the signature of someone else. Therefore they did not carry out their retainer. That was contrary to the strict obligation which they had accepted to obtain Mrs Dukes' signature.

As to the interpretation of the retainer, the solicitors had relied upon the guidance of Lord Hoffmann in *Investors Compensation Scheme Ltd v West Bromwich Building Society* ([1998] 1 WLR 896, 912): "Interpretation is the ascertainment of the meaning which the document would convey to a reasonable person having all the background knowledge which would reasonably have been available to the parties in the situation in which they were at the time of the contract."

The features of the background which were of most significance were:

1 The retainer had been in connection with the bank obtaining security for a loan which in its commercial judgment the bank had decided to make to its customer, Mr Dukes.

Risks were always associated with entering into such a transaction, even with a customer who was thought to be respectable. That was the type of risk for which a commercial body such as a bank would make provision.

2 On the other hand, the solicitors were being retained in their professional capacity to provide services to the bank. In the ordinary way solicitors were not required to take commercial risks of that nature.

In the provision of services the normal standard of responsibility of solicitors, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, was to exercise the standard of care which was normally to be expected from a competent member of the profession providing that service.

3 The bank would normally be in a better position than the solicitors to form a judgment as to the customer's trustworthiness.

It was against that background that the following question had to be objectively answered: did the bank intend to ask for and did the solicitors intend to give a promise to answer for the fraud of the customer even if that fraud could not be detected by exercising all proper care?

In his Lordship's view the answer to that question should be "No", unless the language used compellingly indicated otherwise.

Although the bank's letter had instructed the solicitors to obtain the signature of Mr and Mrs Dukes on the documents, that could not be an absolute obligation to do so. If Mr and Mrs Dukes had decided not to proceed with the transaction then of course the solicitors would not be liable because the signatures were not obtained.

An obligation of that nature was not likely to be of an absolute nature. It was better suited to a requirement to exercise a reasonable standard of care. The words did not compel the conclusion for which the bank contended.

In *Zwebner v Mortgage Corporation plc* (unreported, June 18, 1998, CA (Civ Div) Transcript No 966 of 1998) the facts generally bore a marked resemblance to the present facts.

However, in *Zwebner* the solicitors gave an undertaking that "all appropriate documents will be properly executed..." The Court of Appeal concluded that that undertaking had contractual force.

Zwebner was at least highly persuasive authority in support of the bank's argument. If his Lordship had been in doubt as to the right outcome of the appeal, he would not have been prepared to distinguish the present case from *Zwebner*. However, on the facts of the present case, his Lordship had no doubt that the judge had come to the right decision.

The obligation was not absolute. In those circumstances his Lordship did not feel constrained by *Zwebner* and was not prepared to imply into the retainer the word "properly" which did not appear, nor to assimilate a certificate with an undertaking.

Lines did have to be drawn so that two cases dealing with similar facts produced different results. That was undesirable but inevitable.

In his Lordship's judgment, the decision in *Zwebner* should not be given a wide application. To do so would ignore the wider consequences of the court's decision.

If commercial institutions such as banks wished to impose an absolute liability on members of a profession they should do so in clear terms so that the solicitors could appreciate the extent of the obligation which they were accepting.

Frequently that sort of task was undertaken by small firms of solicitors who were already finding it difficult to remain viable. That was partly because they were heavily burdened by the costs of insurance.

If they were to be liable for substantial sums of damages as a result of the fraud of the customers of the bank which they could not prevent, then either they would have to withdraw from providing those services or they would have to charge for their services at a rate very different from that which was charged here. Neither result was in the interests of the banks or their customers or the public.

The result was not in the interests of the banks' customers as they would not benefit from the explanation of the transaction from a member of the legal profession who was qualified to give that explanation.

It was not in the interests of banks as they would have to pay higher fees which they might or might not seek to recover from their customers.

It was not in the interest of the public because it was important that legal services were readily available and that would not be the case if small firms were unable to survive.

Unless the language used in a retainer clearly had that consequence, the courts should not be ready to impose obligations on solicitors which even the most careful solicitor might not be able to meet.

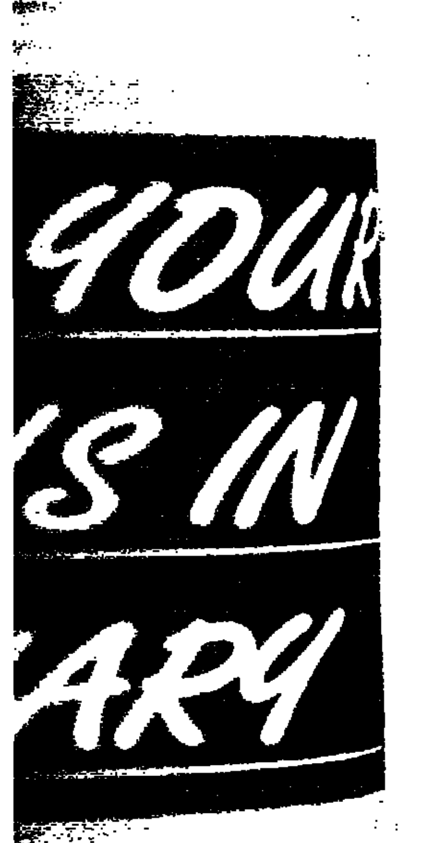
Lord Justice Mummery gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Mantell agreed.

Solicitors: Gateley Wareing, Birmingham; Pinsent Curtis, Birmingham.

Corrections

In *BCCI v Ali* (*The Times* January 25) the court upheld BCCI's claim and the leading counsel for the liquidators was Mr Christopher Jeans, QC.

In *R v Abdul-Hussain* and associated cases (*The Times* January 26) the appeal by Maged Mehdy Naji, represented by Mr Alper Riza, QC and Mr Lee Karu was allowed. The appellant Sabah Nouri Nagi, represented by Mrs Frances Bacon, was omitted and his appeal was dismissed. Mr Nicholas Hilliard appeared for the Crown. Mr Timothy Horgan was not present at the appeal hearing.



BRIEFINGS

The training and consultancy unit of Kensington and Chelsea College is running courses for owners and workers in small businesses funded by Focus Central London, the training and enterprise council. Courses run from February 15 to March 12 and cost £15 for a half-day session. Details on 0171-573 5322.

☐ A guide to the new legislation on whistle-blowing, which protects staff who report illegal, unjust or dangerous practices by employers, has been produced by Theodore Goddard, the City solicitors. Inquiries: 0171-606 8855.

☐ Small businesses are being invited to take part in the Delta Experience roadshow in Egypt, a touring exhibition of catalogues, videos and interactive product demonstrations in April. It is part of the DTI's Connect Egypt export campaign. The cost is about £250. Details: 01277 812424.

☐ A second edition of *Tax Planning*, a guide written by business tax specialists, has been produced by the UK 200 Group. The price is £12.50 including postage. Contact: 01252 333511.

☐ Subhash Joshi, a 45-year-old partner with Pannell Kerr Foster, the accountancy firm specialising in financial advice to small businesses, has become the first Asian president of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce in its 216 years.

☐ The Prince's Trust is to help 20 young people in South Wales and Manchester to set up their own businesses using a £60,000 donation from Royal Bank of Scotland. The bank is also encouraging staff to become volunteer business mentors for businesses supported by the trust. Details from Clare Winterton on 0171-543 1381.



"I've embraced the single currency — I already have a euro overdraft!"

Braid bunch are happy to pull in the tourists

Christian Diamond visits a factory making every rope product from bell pulls to dog leads

One of the more singular tourist attractions in the Yorkshire Dales is a 10,000 sq ft factory producing dog leads, church bell ropes, calving ropes, candle wicks and much else out of rope and braid.

Some 100,000 people a year, most of them holidaymakers, visit WR Outhwaite & Son, ropemakers in Hawes, and apart from school parties (because a member of staff is detailed to show them around) they get in free.

"This is primarily a working factory and if we started charging everyone we'd have to invest in all sorts of other facilities," says Ruth Annison, who with her husband, Peter, bought the firm nearly 25 years ago.

As it is, visitors still account for a quarter of their business because of the money they spend in the factory shop. This stocks a large range of rope and braid products, wooden toys and items such as sheep-shaped biscuit cutters, whistling toy birds, old-fashioned clothes pegs and slate boards for children to draw on.

The more unusual products have proved highly popular, the biscuit cutters often being bought by local bed and breakfast establishments so they can serve sheep-shaped fried bread for breakfast.

It was in 1905 that W. R. ("Billy Dick") Outhwaite bought an existing rope business in Hawes which he later passed on to his son, Tom.

"When we took over the firm in 1975 it was a one-person business with 400 sq ft of factory space, mainly devoted to making rope for farmers which was used either to tie up their animals or lead them around," says Mrs Annison.

Now the full and part-time staff total 25 and the output extends to clotheslines, coffin ropes (for lowering coffins into the grave), light pull cords, skipping ropes, mooring lines, bannister ropes, barrier ropes, picture cords, carrier bag handles and two sizes of portable dressage arenas, consisting of rope lengths, pieces of Velcro and wooden posts that can all be packed up inside a car boot. The company's annual turnover is a little over half a million pounds.

"We're always searching for new products which can fit into our manufacturing process and what we're very good at is dealing with small orders in specialist niche markets. If people want tailor-made products in reasonable quantities that's ideal for us," says Mrs Annison.

"Sometimes we deal with an individual customer but often our work comes through intermediaries and is a component of a bigger product, so we may not know who the end user is. Currently we're making rope for 'trouser butlers' (for hanging up trousers) which are being advertised in a number of mail order catalogues and a few months ago we made shoelaces for a company making children's toy shoes.

"Then the other week someone phoned up and told us they'd been asked to provide a large number of carrier bags for an exhibition. Could we make the braid handles? Fortunately we had the right colour yarn in stock so we got the order," she adds.

British-made "maypole braiders" at W. R. Outhwaite & Son can plait up to 32 different coloured strands at any one time whereas rope-making involves twisting the yarn or fibre rather than plaiting it.

The most traditional product with which the company is associated is the church bell rope — made according to the height of the tower and weight of the bell. Visitors can often see the yarn or fibre being laid out in parallel lines before the twisting process starts.

With the Millennium Commission having granted £3 million towards restoring church bells in more than 100 communities and because church bells will ring in the new millennium on January 1, 2000, there is likely to be increased demand for bell ropes over the next year. "We're at the end of the chain because the bells, bell wheels and bell frames have to be made or restored first," says Mrs Annison. As a price guide a 45 ft length of church bell rope for a bell weighing up to 15 cwt is about £65.

The publication *The Ringing World* carries an Outhwaite advert every fortnight and for other products the company advertises in a variety of consumer and specialist magazines. Once a year they take a stand at PetIndex — the pet product trade show — at the NEC in Birmingham to promote their dog leads and "ChewTugs", while opening the factory to the public makes for good publicity as well. "One of the nice things about running your own business is to see your product in places around the country. I know when I go to airports there'll be a chance of spotting some of our barrier ropes. It makes going on holiday an even more enjoyable experience," says Mr Annison.

☐ W. R. Outhwaite & Son, Ropemakers: 01969 667487.

CARL RUTHERFORD

Money for old rope: Ruth and Peter Annison are always searching for new products to manufacture

Tecs confusion reigns as report fails to appear

By Rodney Hobson

THE long-awaited report on the future of training and enterprise councils (Tecs), the joint initiative between the Government and private enterprise to help small businesses, is still in the melting pot.

The Department for Education and Employment, which has responsibility for the Tecs, admits that there is no target date for completion of the review. Tecs themselves were expecting the report to be published last autumn. The date has slipped back, causing confusion. Rumours have circulated that the review will be completed in February, March, April, or even as late as the autumn.

After taking office the Government indicated that it intended to carry out an urgent examination of the cost and effectiveness of Tecs. It wanted to improve the accountability of the business-dominated governing bodies administering budgets totalling £1.7 billion and to assess the number of jobs and businesses created through their efforts.

Various reasons have been advanced for the delay. Tecs were invited to put forward their views, and the heavy response meant that more material than expected had to be studied. The review has also been expanded to include the role that the councils can play in the Government's social exclusion policy, which was designed to help disadvantaged youngsters to find work.

In the meantime, Tecs have been allocated their budget for the coming financial year. The Department for Education and Employment says it received a 13 per cent increase.

Many companies that have benefited from the advice and expertise of their local Tec are effusive in praise of the service. But for every apologist there seems to be an equally fervent critic.

Tecs have been caught to some extent between two departments. Because they provide training, they come under the Department for Education and Employment, but the enterprise half of the equation would sit more readily with the Department of Trade and Industry. In an attempt to solve the dilemma, Richard Page, the last Conservative Small Firms Minister, created Business Links to provide a one-stop shop for small businesses seeking advice and information. Critics say this simply caused more confusion. Tecs, Business Links, enterprise agencies, chambers of commerce and trade associations all compete to provide help for small businesses.

Independent surveys suggest that the first preference of small businesses is to approach the local chamber of commerce. *Better Business* magazine found that in a survey of 50 small businesses last month only six said they would consult a Tec if they had problems. This was a lower rating than banks, friends, magazines, accountants, books, solicitors and consultants.

Small firms warming to concept of online banking

SMALL and medium-sized businesses are set to move heavily into PC and telephone banking, research by the Royal Bank of Scotland suggests (Rodney Hobson writes).

Although many businesses have been nervous of adopting high-tech banking or have seen it as more suitable for larger outfits, RBS found that a third of small businesses intend to adopt PC banking in the next two years, while one in five are considering Internet banking in the same timescale. RBS talked to nearly 1,000 companies with annual turnover of at least £50,000 but with fewer than 250 employees. So far only one in ten uses PC banking and only 2 per cent use Internet banking.

Telephone banking is more popular and is used by one in five businesses. This figure is set to increase to about 29 per cent. Service sector businesses are more likely than manufacturers to use PCs and the Internet.



Dwight Yorke, the Fantasy League's leading scorer, nods in Manchester United's last-minute winner against Charlton on Sunday. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird/Allsport

Doubles all round as prizes reward fantasy managers

This week, we announce the winners of the £1,000 monthly prize for January and the weekly winner — also of £1,000 because last week's prize was not awarded and the amount was rolled over. Both winners also receive £100 of Puma sports equipment. In addition, we have the winner of the £500 ON-Target prize for the period January 19-24, and the Premiership shirt for the January winner of the Youth League.

■ We also announce three ON-Target numbers. If your team total for the week according to the player lists (right) comes to either x, x or x, follow the instructions on the opposite page to find out if you have won the weekly ON-Target prize, or one of the runner-up prizes. This week only, the winner receives £1,000 (a double prize, with £500 carried over from last week).

■ Some interesting new names have entered the lists of players available for your Fantasy League teams. The two Cameroon internationals, Marc-Vivien Foe, who made his debut for West Ham in the goalless draw at Wimbledon, and Rigobert Song, the gift to headline writers who marked his first appearance for Liverpool with a defeat away to Coventry, were the highest-profile newcomers following their appearances in France '98.

However, a more familar face, although also an established overseas international, did better. John Harkes, the former Sheffield Wednesday defender, fell out with the United States management before the competition and missed out on the World Cup, but is back in the Premiership with Nottingham Forest, and celebrated his return with a win at Everton. Hugo Porfirio, formerly with West Ham, another member of Big Ron's Nottingham Foreign legion, also returned to British football as a late substitute in that game.

Kaba Diawara, Arsenal's new signing from (surprise, surprise) France is another new name in the lists, while Chris Marsden, the elegant former Stockport County and Birmingham City midfield player, has finally reached the Premiership thanks to his transfer to Southampton.



■ Our Fantasy Player of the week (opposite) is one of the relatively unsung foreign imports, playing for one of the relatively unfashionable clubs. His surname is oddly familiar thanks to the regular mentions in the world of politics (Paul, a minister in the Home Office), and fashion (Ozwald, the designer), but George, the Ghanaian-born Holland international who plies his trade in the Coventry City midfield, deserves his own share of the limelight.

Signed from Feyenoord last season, he established himself in the midfield anchor role as Coventry enjoyed their best season for years; Dublin and Huckerby supplied the goals, with Boateng behind them. This term, he has found himself moved to the right of midfield to accommodate the return from injury of Gary McAllister.

On Saturday, he also revealed a talent for goalscoring to viewers of *Match of the Day*, as he dived to head Coventry's opening goal past Liverpool's David James, and his chipped forward pass enabled Noel Whelan to double the lead. The goal and the assist were worth a total of five points to Fantasy League entrants; it could have been seven, if Whelan had not strayed offside before slipping the ball home from Boateng's headed pass.

PRIZES

- [illegible] ***to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final***
- [illegible] ***to the runner-up***
- [illegible] ***for third place***
- [illegible] ***monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment***
- [illegible] ***weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment***
- [illegible] ***youth prize, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt***
- ***£500 weekly On-Target prize***

As I was saying

There is really only one question that I can possibly ask you in the circumstances.
Which is?
What did you do in your previous life to have made you such a poor Fantasy League manager?
I resent that. I consider myself a thoroughly average Fantasy League manager.
But with my expertise to help you, you should be doing much better.
Perhaps you are part of the problem.
Where are you going to find better input than the stuff I give you?
Well, I could always take advice from a higher power.
Such as?
Glenn Hoddle, the England coach himself. The papers have been full of his words of wisdom all weekend. And he is, after all, the man at the top by definition: coach of the national team.
I think you'll find he was the only one who would take the job. And he has some very strange opinions.
You may scoff, but I think some of what he says could be very useful.
Like "We make mistakes down here and our spirit has to come back and learn"? That suggests to me that you're going to have to come back and get your Fantasy team right in another life.
He also said "What you sow you have to reap." So all my investment in good players will pay off in a weekly win, or an ON-Target lucky number before very long.
That is a ridiculously optimistic view of your chances. And what about Hoddle's opinions on karma?
Karma? Isn't he the big French lad that Arsenal have just signed?
No, "the karma working from another lifetime" that your man Glenn was on about. And then there was his remark about Michael Owen, 33 Fantasy League points so far, not being a natural goalscorer.
That was probably after Eileen Drewery got her hands on him.
***Laid* her hands on him. There is an important difference. And to adapt another saying of the great man, You and I have been given half-decent brains and the pick of the FA Carling Premiership to come up with some half-decent Fantasy teams and we haven't done very well.**
I agree with the half-decent brain remark in your case.
Well, if you don't have faith in me, I have a suggestion for you.
Which is?
Get Eileen Drewery to sort your Fantasy team out.



HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.

TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 16 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's team under the heading CLUB, ie, LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or RoI) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our Youth League.

LUCKY DIP If you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only.

TO ENTER BY PHONE Call **0640 67 88 99** (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the UK are charged at national rates. Calls from payphones cost approximately double.

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THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

Submit your entry as soon as possible to maximise your point-scoring opportunities

FANTASY TEAM NAME (up to 16 characters) ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

LUCKY DIP If you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box ☐

CODE	GOALKEEPER NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
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CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
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CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB (first 3 letters)	VALUE
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☐☐☐		☐☐☐	£ m

MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER PER PREMIERSHIP TEAM — TOTAL VALUE (MAX £50m) £

I also wish to enter the Youth League (please tick) ☐
I was under 18 on August 15, 1998. Date of birth ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐

First Name ____________ Surname ____________
Address ____________
Postcode ____________ Daytime tel ____________
Cheque/PO no (payable to: Times Newspapers Ltd) ____________
Credit card number: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date: ☐☐/☐☐
MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card ____________
Supply address of registered cardholder on separate sheet if different from above. Signature ____________

Send with £2.50 entry fee (£10 sterling for entrants outside the UK or RoI) to: The Times Fantasy League, Abacus House, Dudley St, Luton, Beds LU1 1ZZ

1. On which days do you usually buy The Times? ☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday ☐ Don't usually buy The Times
2. Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?
3. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?
4. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy quite often (1-2 copies per month)?

If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers Limited, please tick box ☐

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(ex-UK +44 870 901 4292)

TRANSFER LINE
To alter your team
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(ex-UK +44 870 901 4293)
0640 calls cost 60p per minute (ex UK numbers charge at national rates)

FAXBACK
A comprehensive update sheet
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(ex-UK +44 870 901 4280)

SUPER LEAGUE FAXBACK
A brand new service
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Faxbacks cost £1 per minute (ex UK numbers charged at national rates)

HELPLINE
for any queries
01582 702720

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club, weekly points, total points, valuation(m).

GOALKEEPERS

102	D Seaman	ARS	3	22	3.7
146	A Manninger	ARS	0	12	3.4
139	M Bosnich	AST	0	12	3.2
140	M Oakes	AST	-1	4	2.9
144	A Rachel	AST	0	-1	2.6
108	J Filan	BLA	0	-2	2.8
126	A Fettis	BLA	0	6	2.5
127	T Flowers	BLA	0	-3	3.1
104	S Ilic	CHA	0	-11	2.3
105	M Salmon	CHA	0	0	2.2
106	A Petterson	CHA	0	-1	2.2
134	S Royce	CHA	0	-1	2.2
137	D Kharine	CHE	0	0	2.9
138	E De Goey	CHE	0	23	3.2
107	S Ogrizovic	COV	0	-1	2.4
117	M Hedman	COV	0	-3	2.6
103	R Hoult	DER	3	6	2.3
153	M Poom	DER	0	9	2.5
112	P Gerrard	EVE	0	0	2.4
114	S Simonsen	EVE	0	0	2.7
118	T Myhre	EVE	0	18	2.6
113	N Martyn	LEE	-2	11	3.1
115	M Beeney	LEE	0	0	2.8
125	P Robinson	LEE	0	4	2.7
123	K Keller	LEI	3	10	2.9
124	P Arphexad	LEI	0	0	2.6
122	B Friedel	LIV	0	-1	3.3
131	D James	LIV	-1	7	3.3
116	P Schmeichel	MAN	3	8	4.0
121	R Van Der Gouw	MAN	0	3	3.5
109	M Schwarzer	MID	3	13	2.7
110	B Roberts	MID	0	0	2.4
111	M Beresford	MID	0	-3	2.5
141	S Given	NEW	0	8	3.0
142	L Perez	NEW	0	0	2.7
143	S Harper	NEW	0	2	2.5
119	D Beasant	NOT	3	-14	2.7
120	M Crossley	NOT	0	0	2.6
136	K Pressman	SHE	0	7	2.5
149	M Clarke	SHE	0	0	2.2
150	P Srnicek	SHE	0	6	2.3
147	N Moss	SOU	0	-2	2.2
148	P Jones	SOU	3	-7	2.4
128	I Walker	TOT	0	4	2.8
154	H Segers	TOT	0	0	2.4
155	E Baardsen	TOT	0	3	2.6
129	C Forrest	WES	0	0	2.5
130	S Hislop	WES	3	3	2.7
132	N Sullivan	WIM	3	-1	2.5
135	P Heald	WIM	0	0	2.3

FULL BACKS

203	R Garde	ARS	3	11	3.5
204	L Dixon	ARS	3	32	4.1
205	N Winterburn	ARS	3	23	4.2
260	D Grondin	ARS	0	3	3.4
261	N Vivas	ARS	0	6	3.7
209	A Wright	AST	-1	17	3.7
211	G Croft	BLA	0	0	3.2
248	C Davidson	BLA	2	10	3.1
262	J Kenna	BLA	0	1	3.5
221	C Powell	CHA	0	-7	2.7
240	D Mills	CHA	0	1	2.6
241	M Bowen	CHA	0	0	2.7
242	S Brown	CHA	0	-5	2.5
243	A Barness	CHA	0	-1	2.5
210	A Ferrer	CHE	0	20	3.7
212	G Le Saux	CHE	0	12	4.0
215	C Babayaro	CHE	0	29	3.5
216	F Sinclair	CHE	0	11	3.3
217	M Hall	COV	0	0	2.7
219	R Nilsson	COV	1	4	2.9
231	D Burrows	COV	0	-5	2.9
247	J Brightwell	COV	0	0	2.8
267	M Edworthy	COV	0	-1	2.9
220	R Kozluk	DER	0	0	2.6
223	S Schnoor	DER	0	18	2.8
287	S Elliott	DER	0	1	2.6
295	T Dorigo	DER	3	14	2.8
249	J O'Kane	EVE	0	0	2.9
256	T Thomas	EVE	0	0	2.7
258	M Ball	EVE	0	33	2.8
271	A Cleland	EVE	0	20	2.9
272	T Phelan	EVE	0	0	2.8
286	M Ward	EVE	0	-2	3.0
214	D Granville	LEE	0	5	3.5
224	I Harte	LEE	-2	21	3.4
225	D Robertson	LEE	0	0	3.3
226	G Kelly	LEE	0	0	3.9
227	L Sharpe	LEE	0	0	3.6
235	R Ullathorne	LEI	3	14	3.0
237	R Savage	LEI	0	3	3.3
238	S Guppy	LEI	3	28	3.6
228	J McAteer	LIV	0	2	4.2
229	S Harkness	LIV	0	1	3.8
230	R Jones	LIV	0	0	3.6
232	S Bjornebye	LIV	-1	7	3.8
250	V Heggem	LIV	-1	12	3.9
236	D Irwin	MAN	3	19	4.3
283	J Curtis	MAN	0	-1	3.5
284	P Neville	MAN	0	7	4.3
285	G Neville	MAN	3	12	4.5
294	W Brown	MAN	0	2	3.6
252	C Fleming	MID	3	9	3.0
253	V Kinder	MID	0	3	3.0
254	C Harrison	MID	0	0	2.8
255	D Gordon	MID	3	24	3.2
259	G Lombardi	MID	0	0	2.9
266	R Stockdale	MID	0	8	2.8
244	N Solano	NEW	0	18	3.3
246	A Griffin	NEW	0	-1	3.2
273	S Watson	NEW	-1	13	3.4
274	W Barton	NEW	0	7	3.4
276	L Charvet	NEW	0	8	3.3
280	C Serrant	NEW	0	-1	3.2
281	A Pistone	NEW	0	-3	3.5
298	D Domi	NEW	0	-1	3.3
290	D Lyttle	NOT	0	-5	2.9
291	A Rogers	NOT	5	-3	3.0
292	T Bonalair	NOT	0	-6	3.1
293	M Louis-Jean	NOT	0	-2	2.7
801	S Stensaas	NOT	3	3	2.7
202	E Barrett	SHE	0	-1	2.8
268	A Hinchcliffe	SHE	0	22	3.2
269	J Cobian	SHE	0	2	2.8
279	I Nolan	SHE	0	0	2.8
289	L Briscoe	SHE	0	6	2.6
239	J Beresford	SOU	0	0	2.8
263	J Dodd	SOU	5	1	2.8
288	P Warner	SOU	0	-4	2.5
297	P Colleter	SOU	3	-1	2.8
251	C Wilson	TOT	0	0	3.0
264	S Carr	TOT	0	13	3.1
265	P Tramezzani	TOT	0	-2	3.2
270	J Edinburgh	TOT	0	8	2.9
296	M Taricco	TOT	0	0	3.3
206	S Potts	WES	0	-1	3.0
208	T Breacker	WES	3	3	2.9
233	S Lazaridis	WES	0	0	3.2
234	A Impey	WES	-3	11	3.1
299	S Minto	WES	3	0	3.1
275	D Jupp	WIM	0	-2	2.6
277	B Thatcher	WIM	3	5	2.9
278	A Kimble	WIM	3	4	2.9
282	K Cunningham	WIM	3	1	3.0

CENTRE BACKS

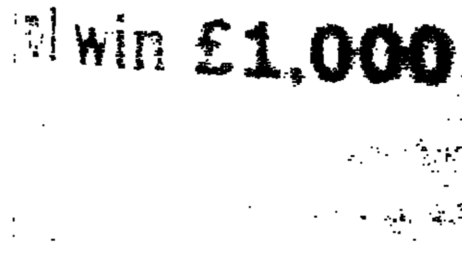
305	S Bould	ARS	0	12	3.8
307	T Adams	ARS	3	21	4.4
322	M Keown	ARS	3	37	4.1
337	G Grimandi	ARS	0	5	3.6
347	M Upson	ARS	0	1	3.4
301	U Ehiogu	AST	-2	24	3.7
303	G Southgate	AST	-1	18	3.6
304	R Scimeca	AST	-1	8	3.3
329	G Barry	AST	-1	11	3.1
353	S Perez	BLA	0	2	3.3
354	D Peacock	BLA	0	1	3.3
355	S Henchoz	BLA	0	0	3.4
374	M Broomes	BLA	0	3	2.8
308	R Rufus	CHA	0	-7	2.7
309	E Youds	CHA	0	-4	2.6
356	B Lambourde	CHE	0	6	3.4
365	M Desailly	CHE	0	16	3.8
368	M Duberry	CHE	-1	15	3.5
370	A Myers	CHE	0	0	3.3
381	F Leboeuf	CHE	0	32	4.2
357	G Breen	COV	0	-3	3.0
384	P Williams	COV	0	3	2.9
387	R Shaw	COV	0	1	2.8
388	L Daish	COV	0	0	2.8
311	J Laursen	DER	3	13	2.9
312	I Stimac	DER	3	6	3.0
313	R Delap	DER	0	15	2.7
314	HA Carbonari	DER	3	20	3.1
326	C Dailly	DER	0	-1	3.0
306	S Bilic	EVE	0	2	3.1
323	D Unsworth	EVE	0	19	3.1
324	D Watson	EVE	0	16	2.9
325	C Tiler	EVE	0	1	3.0
327	C Short	EVE	0	7	2.9
328	M Materazzi	EVE	0	9	3.0
348	R Dunne	EVE	0	12	2.7
330	L Radebe	LEE	-2	15	3.5
331	M Hiden	LEE	0	14	3.4
332	J Woodgate	LEE	-2	7	3.2
380	D Wetherall	LEE	-2	2	3.6
398	R Molenaar	LEE	0	20	3.4
334	G Taggart	LEI	3	3	3.2
335	P Kaamark	LEI	3	-3	3.3
336	S Walsh	LEI	3	14	3.3
338	M Elliott	LEI	3	25	3.9
389	S Prior	LEI	6	19	3.1
302	S Staunton	LIV	-1	6	4.1
320	P Babb	LIV	0	6	3.7
375	D Matteo	LIV	-1	2	3.6
376	F Kippe	LIV	0	0	3.4
399	ST Kvarme	LIV	0	0	3.5
902	R Song	LIV	0	0	3.8
321	H Berg	MAN	3	6	3.9
366	D May	MAN	0	0	3.9
382	J Stam	MAN	3	13	4.6
383	R Johnsen	MAN	0	14	4.1
339	G Pallister	MID	3	12	3.2
343	G Festa	MID	3	11	3.1
344	S Vickers	MID	0	7	3.0
340	S Pearce	NEW	0	3	3.2
341	S Howey	NEW	0	-1	3.3
342	N Dabizas	NEW	0	11	3.4
345	A Hughes	NEW	0	-3	3.0
361	P Albert	NEW	0	4	3.5
349	C Edwards	NOT	0	-1	2.6
350	C Cooper	NOT	3	9	3.2
351	S Chettle	NOT	0	-11	3.0
352	JO Hjelde	NOT	3	-10	2.9
371	J Matthews	NOT	0	-3	2.8
901	C Doig	NOT	0	-3	2.8
358	P Atherton	SHE	0	18	2.9
359	G Sedloski	SHE	0	0	2.7
360	D Walker	SHE	0	13	2.8
362	D Stefanovic	SHE	0	2	2.7
364	J Newsome	SHE	0	-1	2.8
317	K Monkou	SOU	0	-2	2.7
385	F Benali	SOU	0	-4	2.7
386	R Dryden	SOU	0	3	2.5
391	C Lundekvam	SOU	3	-5	2.6
394	S Marshall	SOU	0	-5	2.7
395	S Hiley	SOU	3	-9	2.5
397	G Monk	SOU	0	-8	2.5
346	C Calderwood	TOT	0	11	3.1
373	J Scales	TOT	0	6	3.0
377	L Young	TOT	0	0	2.7
378	S Campbell	TOT	2	24	3.3
396	R Vega	TOT	0	9	3.4
315	J Dicks	WES	3	6	3.3
319	I Pearce	WES	0	4	3.1
363	R Hall	WES	0	0	2.9
367	J Margas	WES	0	-6	3.2
369	N Ruddock	WES	3	3	3.0
393	R Ferdinand	WES	3	11	3.2
372	C Perry	WIM	3	-1	3.1
390	B McAllister	WIM	0	0	2.8
392	D Blackwell	WIM	0	-1	2.9

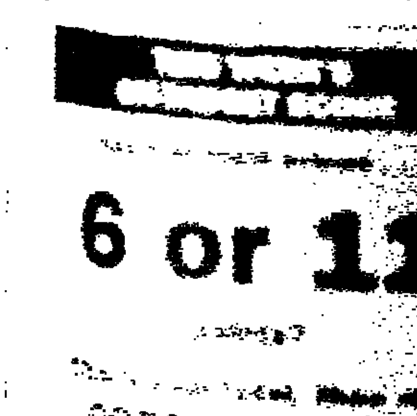
MIDFIELDERS

405	E Petit	ARS	0	8	4.4
408	M Overmars	ARS	0	14	5.6
416	R Parlour	ARS	0	6	4.0
420	P Vieira	ARS	0	3	4.1
424	F Ljungberg	ARS	0	3	5.5
425	S Hughes	ARS	0	7	3.5
407	M Draper	AST	0	0	3.7
409	S Grayson	AST	0	0	3.3
410	A Thompson	AST	0	4	4.5
411	F Ferraresi	AST	0	0	3.6
413	L Hendrie	AST	0	16	3.7
535	I Taylor	AST	0	11	3.8
415	B McKinlay	BLA	0	0	3.2
417	J Wilcox	BLA	0	4	4.0
419	D Duff	BLA	0	4	4.2
421	J Corbett	BLA	0	0	3.3
422	T Sherwood	BLA	0	11	4.1
423	D Johnson	BLA	0	7	3.1
426	O Konde	BLA	0	0	3.3
427	D Marcolin	BLA	0	3	3.6
428	D Dunn	BLA	0	2	3.1
575	G Flitcroft	BLA	0	10	3.3
499	S Parker	CHA	0	2	3.0
501	K Jones	CHA	0	2	3.1
502	M Kinsella	CHA	0	8	3.5
504	M Holmes	CHA	0	0	3.2
505	S Newton	CHA	0	2	3.3
506	J Robinson	CHA	0	4	3.2
507	N Redfearn	CHA	0	6	4.1
508	P Mortimer	CHA	0	5	3.4
401	M Nicholls	CHE	0	0	3.3
404	P Hughes	CHE	0	0	3.1
429	J Morris	CHE	0	2	3.2
430	R Di Matteo	CHE	0	11	4.4
433	B Goldbaek	CHE	0	2	3.9
434	D Petrescu	CHE	0	12	4.3
435	E Newton	CHE	0	0	3.1
437	G Poyet	CHE	0	25	4.9
439	D Wise	CHE	0	6	3.8
465	G McAllister	COV	0	5	3.9
584	L Delorge	COV	0	0	3.5
588	B Quinn	COV	0	2	3.2
589	P Hall	COV	0	0	3.8
590	P Telfer	COV	0	3	3.5
591	N Whelan	COV	3	20	4.4
592	TE Soltvedt	COV	0	7	3.4
593	W Boland	COV	0	0	3.0
594	G Boateng	COV	5	7	3.3
595	P Clement	COV	0	2	3.5
596	G Strachan	COV	0	0	3.1
598	S Shilton	COV	0	0	3.0
599	S Froggatt	COV	2	13	3.7
440	D Powell	DER	0	4	3.2
442	S Eranio	DER	0	0	3.8
443	L Carsley	DER	0	5	3.1
444	F Baiano	DER	0	3	5.2
445	K Harper	DER	2	5	3.7
446	J Hunt	DER	0	3	3.4
479	L Bohinen	DER	0	2	3.6
403	G Farrelly	EVE	0	0	3.2
414	T Grant	EVE	0	0	3.1
418	D Williamson	EVE	0	0	3.2
447	J Oster	EVE	0	0	3.4
448	N Barmby	EVE	0	2	4.8
449	O Dacourt	EVE	0	0	2.6
450	J Collins	EVE	0	3	4.6
570	D Hutchison	EVE	0	6	4.0
458	W Korsten	LEE	0	0	3.5
459	H Kewell	LEE	0	26	4.4
466	L Bowyer	LEE	0	20	3.9
480	AI Haaland	LEE	0	0	3.6
481	B Ribeiro	LEE	0	3	3.8
482	G Halle	LEE	0	6	3.3
522	D Hopkin	LEE	0	12	3.7
532	S McPhail	LEE	0	4	3.1
452	N Lennon	LEI	0	4	3.5
453	S Campbell	LEI	0	0	3.1
454	G Parker	LEI	0	0	3.6
460	M Izzet	LEI	0	11	3.8
565	T Zagorakis	LEI	0	7	3.4
412	J Carragher	LIV	0	8	3.3
467	J Redknapp	LIV	0	20	4.2
468	S McManaman	LIV	3	10	5.5
469	P Berger	LIV	0	20	4.4
470	D Thompson	LIV	0	3	3.2
472	S Gerrard	LIV	0	0	3.1
475	JM Ferri	LIV	0	0	3.9
487	D Murphy	LIV	0	0	3.7
490	P Ince	LIV	0	12	4.5
529	O Leonhardsen	LIV	0	0	4.3
483	J Blomqvist	MAN	0	9	5.0
484	N Butt	MAN	0	12	4.1
485	R Giggs	MAN	0	12	5.8
486	P Scholes	MAN	2	25	5.5
491	J Cruyff	MAN	0	8	3.8
492	D Beckham	MAN	0	23	5.9
509	R Keane	MAN	0	3	4.4
510	N Maddison	MID	0	0	3.1
511	A Townsend	MID	0	7	3.6
512	R Mustoe	MID	0	5	3.4
514	P Gascoigne	MID	0	15	4.5
515	P Merson	MID	3	17	4.7
516	A Moore	MID	0	0	3.5
517	P Stamp	MID	0	3	3.4
533	M Summerbell	MID	0	0	3.0
461	G Georgiadis	NEW	0	0	3.9
462	D Batty	NEW	0	0	3.7
463	S Glass	NEW	4	17	3.5
464	G Speed	NEW	0	3	4.3
473	J Barnes	NEW	0	0	3.6
488	P Dalglish	NEW	0	3	3.8
489	K Gillespie	NEW	0	5	4.3
493	G Brady	NEW	0	0	3.3
494	D Hamilton	NEW	0	0	3.3
495	T Ketsbaia	NEW	3	13	3.8
496	R Lee	NEW	0	2	4.2
497	D Hamann	NEW	0	0	3.9
518	N Quashie	NOT	0	2	3.8
519	C Hodges	NOT	0	0	3.3
520	C Bart-Williams	NOT	0	5	3.6
521	S Gemmill	NOT	0	2	3.5
524	G Thomas	NOT	0	0	3.5
525	A Johnson	NOT	0	2	3.7
526	S Stone	NOT	0	5	4.0
527	I Woan	NOT	0	0	3.8
528	C Armstrong	NOT	0	0	3.2
530	A Gray	NOT	0	0	3.4
545	H Porfirio	NOT	0	0	3.6
550	J Harkes	NOT	0	0	3.1
537	N Alexandersson	SHE	0	15	3.5
538	P Rudi	SHE	0	11	3.6
539	G Whittingham	SHE	0	0	3.7
540	G Hyde	SHE	0	0	3.1
546	S Oakes	SHE	0	0	3.0
547	W Jonk	SHE	0	7	4.3
548	J Magilton	SHE	0	0	3.1
549	D Sonner	SHE	0	2	3.2
562	B Carbone	SHE	0	23	4.7
597	E Thome	SHE	0	4	3.2
500	S Ripley	SOU	0	2	3.9
536	C Palmer	SOU	0	2	3.2
541	D Howells	SOU	0	3	3.2
542	M Le Tissier	SOU	0	21	6.0
543	W Bridge	SOU	0	0	3.0
544	K Gibbens	SOU	0	0	3.0
556	C Marsden	SOU	0	0	3.3
557	M Oakley	SOU	3	10	3.1
498	D Ginola	TOT	0	14	4.8
503	R Fox	TOT	0	8	4.1
523	A Sinton	TOT	0	0	3.4
551	S Clemence	TOT	0	0	3.2
552	S Freund	TOT	0	0	3.9
553	A Nielsen	TOT	0	13	3.7
554	J Dominguez	TOT	0	0	3.5
555	D Anderton	TOT	0	21	4.6
568	M Saib	TOT	0	0	3.6
436	J Moncur	WES	0	0	3.4
561	E Berkovic	WES	0	16	4.8
573	MV Foe	WES	0	0	3.6
574	J Cole	WES	0	0	3.5
576	T Sinclair	WES	0	12	5.1
577	S Lomas	WES	0	5	3.3
578	F Lampard	WES	0	14	3.7
579	M Keller	WES	0	8	3.9
471	M Kennedy	WIM	0	2	3.8
559	R Earle	WIM	0	14	4.1
560	A Roberts	WIM	0	8	3.3
563	N Ardley	WIM	0	0	3.4
580	M Hughes	WIM	0	11	3.5
585	C Ainsworth	WIM	0	0	3.8
586	C Hughes	WIM	0	0	3.3
587	P Fear	WIM	0	0	3.0

FORWARDS

601	L Boa Morte	ARS	0	0	5.4
602	N Anelka	ARS	0	29	8.0
606	D Bergkamp	ARS	3	26	9.1
617	N Kanu	ARS	0	0	7.7
623	C Wreh	ARS	0	0	5.8
624	K Diawara	ARS	0	0	6.4
645	D Yorke	AST	3	54	8.3
646	J Joachim	AST	2	28	6.2
651	D Vassell	AST	0	0	5.4
652	S Collymore	AST	0	7	8.0
647	C Sutton	BLA	0	11	8.4
648	N Blake	BLA	0	9	6.7
691	M Dahlin	BLA	0	4	6.4
692	A Ward	BLA	0	0	6.9
693	K Gallacher	BLA	0	9	7.5
695	M Jansen	BLA	3	3	6.4
698	K Davies	BLA	0	7	7.4
604	C Mendonca	CHA	0	11	6.5
605	M Bright	CHA	0	3	5.6
607	S Jones	CHA	0	5	5.0
608	A Hunt	CHA	0	17	5.5
616	M Pringle	CHA	0	3	5.2
636	PL Casiraghi	CHE	0	5	7.6
637	TA Flo	CHE	0	25	7.2
639	G Vialli	CHE	0	2	6.6
642	M Forssell	CHE	0	0	5.9
679	G Zola	CHE	0	33	7.4
680	D Huckerby	COV	0	23	7.2
683	D Dublin	COV	0	43	7.9
685	D Jackson	COV	0	0	6.3
686	J Aloisi	COV	0	7	6.4
612	D Sturridge	DER	0	22	6.8
625	D Burton	DER	0	9	5.3
694	P Wanchope	DER	0	22	6.8
696	M Christie	DER	0	0	5.0
628	D Cadamarteri	EVE	0	14	5.3
675	I Bakayoko	EVE	0	6	6.7
702	D Ferguson	EVE	0	18	7.5
661	C Wijnhard	LEE	0	10	6.8
662	JF Hasselbaink	LEE	0	43	8.1
671	A Smith	LEE	0	15	5.1
621	S Wilson	LEI	0	0	5.0
622	E Heskey	LEI	0	19	6.8
626	T Cottee	LEI	0	14	5.4
657	I Marshall	LEI	0	0	5.7
669	G Fenton	LEI	0	0	5.2
618	KH Riedle	LIV	0	17	7.7
619	S Dundee	LIV	0	0	7.0
620	R Fowler	LIV	0	33	9.4
690	M Owen	LIV	2	35	10.5
640	OG Solskjaer	MAN	0	18	8.1
641	A Cole	MAN	0	40	8.7
649	T Sheringham	MAN	0	0	7.5
609	B Deane	MID	0	17	6.5
611	H Ricard	MID	0	29	6.6
613	M Beck	MID	0	17	6.2
615	A Armstrong	MID	0	0	6.0
667	A Andersson	NEW	0	3	6.7
670	A Shearer	NEW	3	25	10.1
676	L Saha	NEW	0	0	6.2
627	M Harewood	NOT	0	5	5.1
629	N Shipperley	NOT	0	2	6.5
630	P Van Hooijdonk	NOT	3	14	7.8
634	JC Darcheville	NOT	0	3	6.1
635	D Freedman	NOT	0	16	6.3
659	R Humphreys	SHE	0	3	5.3
660	A Quinn	SHE	0	0	5.0
663	F Sanetti	SHE	0	0	5.9
664	A Booth	SHE	0	11	6.5
668	P Di Canio	SHE	0	8	7.1
638	M Hughes	SOU	0	2	6.5
665	D Hirst	SOU	0	0	6.1
703	E Ostenstad	SOU	5	24	6.9
704	J Beattie	SOU	2	12	5.2
706	S Basham	SOU	0	3	5.0
707	H Kachloul	SOU	3	12	5.1
650	C Armstrong	TOT	0	20	7.1
658	L Ferdinand	TOT	0	11	8.1
687	S Iversen	TOT	3	12	6.4
688	P Allen	TOT	0	0	5.2
603	I Wright	WES	0	24	7.8
614	J Hartson	WES	0	20	8.2
643	S Abou	WES	0	0	5.8
644	P Kitson	WES	0	9	6.3
672	C Leaburn	WIM	0	8	5.5
681	J Euell	WIM	0	28	5.4
700	M Gayle	WIM	0	33	5.8
701	E Ekoku	WIM	0	6	6.0
705	C Cort	WIM	0	3	5.3





Celebrations from Harrow to Yorke

Because there were no prizes awarded last week, two managers can now thank their players for making them £1,000 richer

The last-minute winner scored against Charlton Athletic at The Valley by Dwight Yorke of Manchester United on Sunday was worth more than two extra league points to his employers. It also boosted Yorke's Fantasy League score for January to 19 points, and won the monthly prize of £1,000 plus £100 of sports equipment for Sarabjot Kohli, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr Kohli, who has entered two teams in *The Times* Fantasy League, is a sixth-form student at Watford Grammar School, and supports Manchester United. His team, Junglemen, scored 77 points last month, and benefited from using the same Andy Cole-Dwight Yorke dual spearhead as the FA Carling Premiership leaders. Yorke, transferred to Old Trafford after the start of the Fantasy League season, is still counted as an Aston Villa player, so, despite the one-player-per-club rule, he can play in the same side as Cole, who notched 16 points in January.

"At the beginning of the season, I saw that Dwight Yorke was coming to United, and I thought he and Andy Cole would score loads of goals, because Manchester United get the ball to their front players a lot," Mr Kohli said.

The other leading contributor was Martin Keown, the Arsenal defender whose part in his team's shutouts (not to mention one of his very occasional goals, against Nottingham Forest at the City Ground), were worth 12. Andy Hinchcliffe of Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham Hotspur's Sol Campbell also scored well. Mr Kohli's only non-contributor was Gustavo Poyet, the injured Chelsea midfield player whose goals and assists have also been sorely missed by his club. Over the past seven days, his best performer has been Stephen Glass, whose two assists in Newcastle's win over Aston Villa were worth four points.

It is worth noting that Mr Kohli made a four-pronged assault on the transfer market in November, bringing in Campbell, Keown and Glass along with Michael Ball the Everton wing-back who seems to be in most winning teams.

He watches most of his football on television, but is also a careful reader of newspapers, keeping back copies of player lists and noting the names of the regular points scorers. Such meticulous research deserves its reward.

"I've been playing Fantasy League for three or four years and this is the first time I've won anything," he said.

The weekly winner, who also receives £1,000 plus £100 of sports equipment (last week's £500 prize having been carried over), is Chris Taylor of Eccleston, Lancashire. His selection, Taylor's Topteam, scored 27 points last week, with five-point contributions from George Boateng, our Fantasy Player of the Week (see opposite and above), and Alan Rogers, the Nottingham Forest full back who scored three points for his part in a rare clean sheet for his side and an assist in Pierre van Hooijdonk's winner against Everton at Goodison Park.

Solid rather than spectacular scoring was the secret of Mr Taylor's success, with no fewer than five of his players earning three points: Peter Schmeichel, Tony Adams, Matt Elliott, Steve McManaman and Alan Shearer.

Paul Rathbone, whose team, The Vixens, scored 71 points in January, was the monthly winner of the Youth League. He receives a Premiership shirt. Previous monthly winners were Lauren Fisher of Edgware, Middlesex (October), Hosanna Pain of Robertsbridge, East Sussex (November) and Stuart Rutter of Moseley, West Midlands (December).

NICK SZCZEPANIK



MONTHLY WINNER

JUNGLEMEN

N Martyn (LEE)	1
A Hinchcliffe (SHE)	9
M Ball (EVE)	1
S Campbell (TOT)	8
M Keown (ARS)	12
G Poyet (CHE)	0
P Berger (LIV)	4
S Glass (NEW)	4
F Lampard (WES)	3
D Yorke (AST)	19
A Cole (MAN)	16
TOTAL POINTS: 77	

FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK



George Boateng, one-man international squad: born in Ghana, represents Holland, and plays for Coventry. Before turning Sky Blue, he was with Feyenoord; two-footed, good header of the ball and can run all day — so why do people confuse him with an MP and a clothes designer?

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

1	Robert Little	Broken Arrow	270
2	Phil Tusler	Pin-Ups 7	263
2	James Kerr	Serious Squad	263
4	Phil Clarke	Shabadi United	262
5	Gordon Crutchley	Super Saddlers B	258
6	Richard Deane	On The Wagon	256
6	David Mead	In The City	256
8	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	255
9	John White	Fusegear	254
10	Mark Coles	Joe Public	253
10	Nigel Kalb	Kalbs Kings B	253
12	Peter Leathem	Spike Town	252
13	John Humphreys	Academicals	250
14	David Young	Dave 10	249
14	Sarabjot Kohli	Junglemen	249
16	John Lofthouse	Solid At The Bac	247
16	Andrew James Spencer	This One's Mine	247
16	Andy Luckhurst	Caroline B	247
16	L Samuels	Spartak Mossley	247
20	David Edmondson	Edmo Utd Mington	246
20	Terry Bullen	El Tel's Revenge	246
20	Tim Gardner	Harchester Who?	246
23	Scott Brett	Scotts Stars	245
23	Phil Tusler	Pin-Ups	245
23	Mike Shipley	Minus Threat 10	245
23	Glen Reynolds	Wo 20	245
23	Steve Ongerl	Lokomotiv No Go	245
23	Mike Truran	Tigger United	245
29	Lennart Mars	The Jazz	244
29	Jennifer Cockburn	Yeah Right!	244
29	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat 16	244
29	David Wise	Walsall Reserves	244
29	Alan Westrop	Tyneside Army 94	244
34	Philip Morton	Skilli Vanili	243
34	David Swithenbank	Titus All Stars	243
34	Jas Singh	Inter City 442	243
34	Mike Shipley	Minor Threat	243
34	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	243
34	Phil Tusler	Peter 7	243
34	Michael Scaife	Allidoiswash&go	243
41	John Hives	Boogaloo Dudes	242
41	Chris Wallis	Wallys Wonders 2	242
43	John Mell	Melton United	241
43	Jonathan Hayes	Special Brew	241
43	Lucy Crosthwaite	I Hate Football	241
43	Peter Roe	Bill & Ted's Team	241
43	Murray Macmillan	Murray's Marvels	241
43	C Sharpe	Sunfish Stars	241
43	Michael Langdon	Hermaphrodites	241
43	Angela Whitfield	Westcountry Woo5	241
51	David Tilley	Tilley FC	240
51	Tony Burns	Barrett St Boys	240
51	Tony Fidler	Real Dataman	240
54	Brian Payne	Cosmopolitan In	239
54	Brian Highdale	Dave's Deans FC	239
54	F Welsby	Furyhmu	239
54	Pritesh Gadhia	Willesden Eleven	239
54	Darren Sawyer	Finchleyallstars	239
54	Allan Purdy	Als Bandits	239
54	David Daley	The Daley X1	239
61	Kevin Styles	Olivianewtonjohn	238
61	Andrew Kavanagh	Super Snipers FC	238
61	Tony Murnaghan	Tonys Terrors	238
61	James Walsh	Tigers Argyle	238
61	E Scaletta	Gatto Nero	238
61	Philip Haddon	Premier Cruising	238
61	Mike Hawke	Holyrump Yagler	238
61	Gareth Rowlands	Merlins Brew In	238
61	Nigel Byrne	Nigel's Team	238
70	Paul Swain	Q B Oldboys	237
70	Harry Birks	Who Needs Hayes?	237
70	Thomas Meakin	Tt's All Stars	237
70	Peter Coltman	Just A Bods Team	237
70	Sean Eastwood	Coen Brothers	237
70	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	237
70	Michael Lyne	Stimmosnutter	237
70	Don Shuter	Don 5	237
70	Richard Mason	Riansonenc	237
70	Nick Waterman	Watermen3	237
70	Marian Knapman	Revolution 1	237
70	Paul Caton	Euro Stars	237
82	Jillian Rose	Eernies Fleas	236
82	John Green	Chicken Chasers	236
82	Richard Low	Geocir United	236
82	Charles Duncan	Allans Strollers	236
82	Brian Ritson	Relegation Certs	236
82	Jim Anderson	Hoops Nightmare	236
82	Martin White	Grampus Gunners	236
82	George Millington	Survivors 6	236
82	Michael Matejtschuk	Bandidos Darsene	236
82	Dominic Quibell	Doms Demons	236
92	Ron Allport	Cyclones	235
92	James Inglis	Pride O The Rock	235
92	Mark Gayler	Third Time Lucky	235
92	Anil Nathan	Nathan Hotspurs	235
92	Robin Harrington	Chequers Champs	235
92	Simon Gray	The Walker	235
92	Roy Weller	Blue & Black Bar	235
92	Andrew Beresford	Bezza's Boys	235
92	Paul O'Neill	Four Four Two	235

Plus six other teams on 235 points

CHECK YOUR SCORES
TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERBOARD

1	Robert Anderson	Robert's Rovers	255
2	David Swithenbank	Titus All Stars	243
2	Jwalant Popat	Popat's Army	243
4	Matthew O'Neil	The M Team	237
5	Richard Low	Geocir United	236
6	Henrietta Ball	Henn & Goals UU	235
7	John Young	Noteamname	233
8	Robert Harding	Wishful Thinking	232
9	Jacob Bonehill	Satan's Spawn	231
10	Stuart Rutter	Spitonthevilla	230
10	Matthew Giles	Rowstock Rovers	230



Stephen Glass: part of the monthly winners, Junglemen

So your team is useless? You can still win £1,000 this week

Now is the time to sign up a new team for On-Target, the game where you don't have to be a footballing anorak to win the prizes

Congratulations to Anupama Muddu of Bramhall, the main winner of ON-Target this week, who finds herself £500 richer and possessor of an EA Sports Pack. Fourteen other managers have also managed to win themselves excellent prizes.

Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now — or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. *The Times* has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned *FIFA 99* game. Every week you have the chance to win:

- 1st Prize: £500 plus an EA Sports Pack
- 4 runners up: EA Sports Packs
- 10 additional runners up: Fifa 99 CD-Rom.

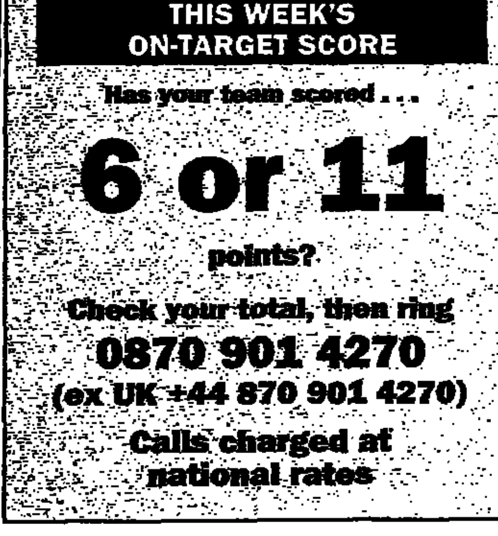
Each EA Sports Pack contains: FIFA '99 for the Playstation; FIFA '99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a record bag.

IF YOU already have a team in the main game, then you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score shown here each Tuesday. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line (national rate call) will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes.

The ON-Target score may be high or low. There could be more than one score (such as today). It could be a minus score. So it's worth checking your performance every week.

Just have your PIN number handy to call the winners line on:

0870 901 4270





If you don't have a team, or want to sign up another one, enter now by filling in the entry form. There are no limits to how many teams you enter. Not only could you win the ON-Target prizes, but you could win the main game weekly (£500) or monthly (£1,000) prizes.

HOW TO ENTER: Look up your players' weekly point scores opposite and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s), then call our claim line on **0870 901 4270** (calls, charged at national rate, should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday night. The lines then close until the next game starts on Tuesday morning.

If you have scored the correct number of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won.

Managers with the correct points who have *not* called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main game rules.

Winners

This week's winners are: Anupama Muddu of Bramhall (£500 plus EA Sports Pack); Stuart Birchall of Preston, Duncan Friart of Cramlington, David Holand-Bride of Willenhall, Gavin Burr of Kenilworth and Mark Escrete of Hull (EA Sports Packs); Richard Nunn of Norwich, David Pentin of Heathfield, Corie Lavender of Chesterfield, Andrew Hannon of Norwich, Milan Kupusarevic of Newcastle upon Tyne, Tony Carr of London W1, Mark Thomas of Leamington Spa, Lee Forster of Cheadle and Steve Longsborough of Whitby (Fifa 99 CD-Roms).



FANTASY LEAGUE QUIZ





Every week we challenge you to test your footballing knowledge. Last week there were pictures of Gianfranco Zola, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, Dwight Yorke and Frank Leboeuf. The link between this quartet is that they are the top four overseas Fantasy League points scorers.

This week's is a good deal harder and you may need reference books to detect the common denominator between these four Premiership players



Cup form boosts league performance

EVEN though FA Cup games do not contribute towards *The Times* Fantasy League, the consequences of these games can certainly affect the success of your side in the following weeks.

Although it is obviously pleasing to see one of your players hit the target in the Cup, you do not get rewarded in the form of Fantasy League points. However, the benefit of your players gaining confidence as a result comes later on. For example, Noel Whelan had hit a temporary lean spell in the Premiership, so managers owning the Sky Blues attacking midfielder were relieved to see their man notch a goal, and also set up another during Leicester's 3-0 nightmare at Filbert Street. He carried on where he left off when it really mattered this weekend, impressing in their 2-1 win against Liverpool, scoring the all-important second goal in the process.

Other players who gained confidence from their FA Cup performances were Newcastle midfielder Temuri Ketsbaia, who has really hit some form, and Dennis Bergkamp, who notched up another three points against Chelsea following his goal at Wolves.

However, the experience encountered by some Fantasy League managers during FA Cup weekends can be likened to that of the role of the Premiership managers when their players are on international duty. When Premiership players play for their country, the manager fears that the player will return with an injury. It's the old club versus country debate. They have nothing to gain and everything to lose — precisely the position which Fantasy League managers are put in during FA Cup games.

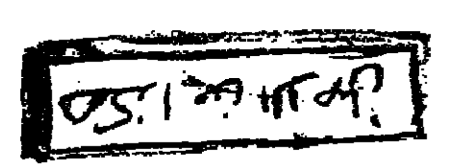
Managers are also affected adversely by the FA Cup if their players pick up bookings or get themselves sent off during these matches. Lee Hendrie (currently amongst the most popular buys) picked up his fifth booking of the season which means he misses the Premiership match with Blackburn next Saturday. Roy Keane also picked up his fifth booking of the season, but the good news for all Keane owners is that the hard man will miss only their fifth-round tie with Fulham and no Premiership matches.

However, Emmanuel Petit is not so lucky. His second dismissal of the season ensures that he misses two crucial Premiership games.

Fantasy League managers owning players from Aston Villa, Leicester and Liverpool may therefore treat their respective exits from the Cup as a blessing in disguise.

TRANSFER LINE

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0640 62 51 03
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0640 calls cost 60p per minute. Ex-UK calls charged at national rates



THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2 1999

NEWS

Hoddle's fate decided today

Glenn Hoddle is facing dismissal as England football coach today after his refusal to resign over his controversial remarks about the disabled.

Hoddle will meet senior Football Association officials this morning and an announcement about his future is expected around lunchtime. Pressure on the FA increased after the Prime Minister said that Hoddle should go............. Pages 1, 6

Junior nurses win 12 per cent pay rise

The Prime Minister last night announced inflation-busting pay awards of more than 4 per cent for 1.3 million public sector workers and a 12 per cent rise for junior nurses. The Government agreed to honour in full the recommendations of the pay review body for nurses, doctors, the Armed Forces, teachers and top civil servants.............. Pages 1, 8

Cloning rules review

Radical measures to rebuild public confidence in British scientists after the BSE crisis and cloning controversies are being drawn up by the Government...... Pages 1, 9

Prescott in travel row

John Prescott was accused of "living like a king" after admitting that he chartered a helicopter to Nottingham instead of taking a train for £60. The estimated cost is up to £3,000.................. Page 2

Doctor checkup plan

Doctors need regular performance checks to make sure they are keeping abreast of treatments and to ensure they remain competent, says the General Medical Council.............................. Page 2

Screams disrupt court

A mother whose baby was shaken to death by the Australian nanny Louise Sullivan screamed in court after hearing evidence that the killer still dreamt fondly about the child.................. Page 3

Britons boycott trial

Yemeni guards jabbed rifle butts into the backs of five Britons to force them back into court after they tried to boycott their own terrorism trial........................ Page 3

Racism lawsuit fails

A black motorist who claimed that he was stopped by police 34 times in two years has failed in his attempt to sue a police force for racial harassment........ Page 5

Noye fights extradition

Kenneth Noye yesterday protested his innocence of the M25 road rage murder of Stephen Cameron, and claimed police had identified him illegally............ Page 7

IOC chief denies gift

Juan Antonio Samaranch has denied receiving an £11,000 sword from the Governor of Nagano just before the city won the 1998 Winter Olympics............ Page 10

Pope is a film buff

The Pope, who returned at the weekend from a rigorous trip to Mexico and the US, has a secret source of relaxation: the Vatican's collection of more than 6,000 films.............................. Page 10

Art claim thwarted

Prince Ernst August of Hanover, Germany's senior aristocrat, is being thwarted in his attempts to reclaim family-owned Old Masters after claims that his grandfather profited from Nazi actions against Jews.................... Page 11

Lewinsky questioned

Monica Lewinsky spent yesterday shut in a hotel with a video camera, answering lawyers' questions for the impeachment trial of President Clinton.............. Page 12

Syria under fire

Israel has accused the regime in Syria of seeking to destabilise neighbouring Jordan whose absent ruler, King Hussein, today undergoes surgery.......... Page 13

Stay tuned and you could win a baby

A television event aimed at creating millennium babies has been attacked by church and family groups for devaluing human life. March 17 has been identified as the best date to begin efforts for conceiving a child born on January 1, 2000, and ITV is planning *Birth Race 2000* — an evening of "sex-oriented programming to get the nation in the mood"...................... Page 5

PIERRE VIROT / REUTERS



Freezing winds yesterday whipped icy water across Lake Geneva as the Swiss city was hit by its worst cold snap in more than a decade

BUSINESS

Bank merger: Hundreds of investment banking jobs are threatened by the proposed merger of Societe Generale and Paribas........ Page 25

Nice work: Executives who helped the Japanese finance house Nomura to a £170 million profit on a 14-month investment in the William Hill bookmaking chain will receive £6.6 million in bonuses..... Page 25

Coopers fine: Coopers & Lybrand, long-time adviser to Robert Maxwell, is to pay £3.3 million in fines and costs over failings in its audit work on his empire........... Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 index rose 116.4 points to 6012.4. The pound fell 0.29 cents to $1.6404 but rose 0.17p against the euro to 68.92p. The sterling index was unchanged at 100.8.............................. Page 28

SPORT

Football: John Hartson, the Wimbledon forward, has been fined £20,000 and given a three-match suspension by the FA over a training-ground incident when he was with West Ham United earlier this season.............................. Page 48

Rugby union: Ulster, who won the European Cup on Saturday, have been invited to challenge Bath, the previous winners who did not defend their title.................... Page 45

Motor racing: Damon Hill exuded confidence and looked forward to more Formula One victories as Jordan launched their campaign for the new season.................. Page 46

Golf: Tiger Woods was heckled and stalked by an armed man in the final round of the Phoenix Open in Arizona.............................. Page 45

ARTS

Prince charming: Kentucky's distinctive cult singer-songwriter Will Oldham kicks off his latest tour in Dublin under yet another name — Bonnie "Prince" Billy......... Page 32

Picture this: In a spellbinding show at the Serpentine Gallery the photographs of Andreas Gursky offer chilling insights into our late 20th century world..................... Page 33

Two Tates: By 2001 the Tate Gallery will be operating two huge London sites, at Millbank and Bankside, thanks to the lottery. But can it afford to run them?........... Page 33

CD offer: *Times* readers can enjoy the world's greatest music with essays by the world's greatest writers at a special price. Today, read D. M. Thomas on Mozart's *Requiem*.......................... Page 34

FEATURES

Key discovery: "It was as though I'd been visited by a piano tuner who . . . tweaked the ivory bones of my body. Now the same notes, but mellower, fuller, sprang out." In the first of two extracts, the psychologist Lauren Slater describes what it was like to be one of the first people to try Prozac................. Page 15

Seasoned sufferers: Dr Thomas Stuttaford on seasonal affective disorder.................................. Page 14

Forced out? Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, discusses the Lawrence inquiry and his own future... Page 15

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Roped in: A factory making every kind of rope product has become a tourist attraction................ Page 21

LAW

Family values: New proposals support those committed to marriage and children................... Page 39

Move over, Swampy: How lawyers have been quietly helping the cause of ecology.................. Page 41

Four years spent chasing an elusive Bill Clinton can make anybody a bit loopy. Just ask independent counsel Ken Starr, who seems to have cast himself as Ahab on the hunt for the great White House whale. The less likely he is to succeed, the more manically he tries.

USA Today

RADIO & TV

Preview: Nick Hancock travels across Cuba. *Great Railway Journeys* (BBC2, 9.25pm) **Review:** Joe Joseph sees Channel 4 making a virtue out of a fiasco...... Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Action replay

An outright admission that Mr Hoddle had said something that he had subsequently come to regret would have been more honest and allowed him to preserve some personal honour...................... Page 17

Professional pay

Mr Blunkett is simply trying to make the profession like any other: one where hard work and motivation are rewarded with promotion and renumeration............. Page 17

The simian link

The discovery that the human Aids originated in chimpanzees has raised hope that scientists may be nearer an elusive goal — the development of a vaccine........... Page 17

COLUMNS

TONY GILLAND

It is surprising that so few people with knowledge of the technology of genetic modification, particularly scientists and the biotech industry, have achieved publicity for its benefits.............................. Page 16

LIBBY PURVES

I can speak with some authority on the nature of leadership, for the shaming reason that I do not have a flicker of the stuff........... Page 16

MICHAEL GOVE

Reincarnation, a tenet of Hindu and Buddhist belief, is now, according to Mr Blair, "very offensive". Does that mean Mr Blair will ask the Dalai Lama to consider his position?.................................. Page 16

MATTHEW PARRIS

Margaret Hodge, the minister who has called for Hoddle to be sacked, is lucky to have escaped, for she was wicked in a previous life. If there were a grain of truth in Mr Hoddle's philosophy, Mrs Hodge would be a warthog............ Page 2

OBITUARIES

Marion Boyars, publisher; **Professor Charles Shute**, histologist; **Otto Koenigsberger**, architect; **Rosalind Ramirez**, governess... Page 19

LETTERS

Lib Dems after Ashdown; legal Latin: "embracing" nuclear power; legal aid; MEPs departure; MI5's German mole.................. Page 17

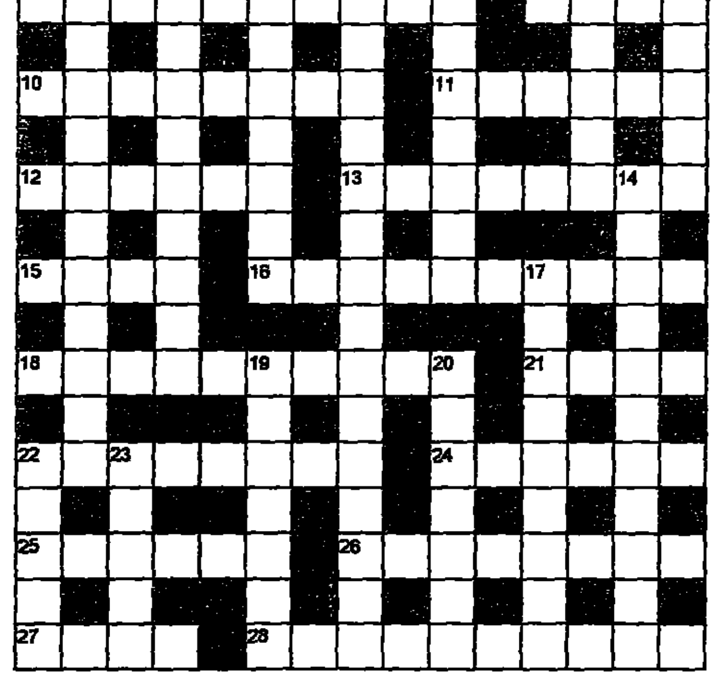
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE
How the camera learnt to lie

■ HOMES
For sale: the tail of the Outer Hebrides — the Barra Head islands

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,016



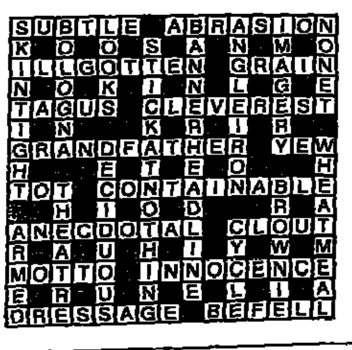
ACROSS

1 Generous, keeping one supplied in daily fare (10).
7 Record of misdemeanours in class (4).
10 Follower of Richard less subtle about a Duke (8).
11 Weighty field to study (6).
12 Extremist, not Conservative, moving from the centre (6).
13 Father backing mother, perhaps, in evidence (8).
15 Plan incompetent person doesn't have (4).
16 Key subordinate to top man found to be a fool (10).
18 Bridge player with singleton may be merciful (4,1,5).
21 Fruit 16 consumed (4).
22 Restrict air passages of line in foreign location (8).
24 Trespasser in second target area (6).
25 Compensate for bad posture (6).
26 Discharge from English embassy (8).
27 Army entertainer (4).
28 Oddly sedate about hazard marked for special attention (10).

DOWN

2 Strictly controlled kind of labour with expedition (4,3,4).
3 Put out of Lincoln, say, to go to the country (9).
4 Walked when young shaver showed the way (7).
5 Be a best man? A ring could be found in this cheap trading area (7,8).
6 Edges into Eastern church to get into shade (7).
8 Veterans like this one only, oddly, fade away (5).
9 Artist not quite ready on time (5).
14 Banter he turns on one could be offensive (4,3,4).
17 She isn't wild about party for those on pleasure bent (9).
19 Fed up with such a meal? (4,3).
20 Wine, in time, mostly become more palatable (7).
22 One still hanging from tree as result of sin (5).
23 Life-preserving equipment fliers got on the way up (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,015



Times Two Crossword, page 48

AA INFORMATION

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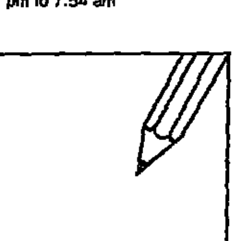
HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.37 am — Sun sets: 4.50 pm

Moon sets: 8.32 am — Moon rises: 7.39 pm

Last quarter: February 8

London 4.50 pm to 7.36 am
Bristol 5.01 pm to 7.46 am
Edinburgh 4.47 pm to 8.05 am
Manchester 4.53 pm to 7.52 am
Penzance 5.17 pm to 7.54 am





FORECAST

☐ **General:** light rain will cross Scotland and Northern Ireland, then skies will brighten. Very windy in northern Scotland. Cloud will spread into northern England amid bright spells and as few showers. Elsewhere in England and Wales will be dry with sunny breaks. It will be generally mild

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, E England, E Anglia, E&W Midlands:** mist and fog will linger before clearing to a dry day with sunny spells. Light W wind. Max 11C (52F)

☐ **Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales:** dry with sunshine after early mist. Light and variable wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **N Wales, NW, Cent N, NE England, Lakes:** sunny breaks, cloud later with a little rain in some parts. Light to moderate SW wind. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray:** rain in parts but sunny later. Moderate W to SW wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** sunny breaks after early rain. Strong to near gale S wind, easing SW. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **N Ireland:** sunny breaks, morning rain. Moderate SW wind. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** mainly dry with cloud, rain or drizzle in north. Wind SW light or moderate. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** dry and mild in most areas with some sunshine. Rain and strong winds will move slowly southwards across Scotland and Northern Ireland.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 6 pm: b=bright, c=cloud, d=drizzle, ds=dust storm, du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gales, h=hail, r=rain, sh=shower, sl=sleet, s=sun, t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Aberdeen	7.3	-	9	48	s	Jersey	0.5	-	10	50	c
Anglesey	6.5	-	10	50	s	Kinloss	7.0	-	11	52	s
Aspatria	2.4	-	8	46	s	Leeds	2.0	0.01	9	48	b
Aviemore	2.9	0.01	10	50	b	Lerwick	2.0	0.03	8	46	d
Belfast	4.1	-	9	48	c	Leuchars	5.6	-	10	50	s
Birmingham	-	-	9	48	c	Littlehampton	-	-	9	48	c
Bognor R	-	-	9	48	du	London	-	-	10	50	du
Bournemth	-	-	9	48	du	Lowestoft	-	0.01	7	45	c
Bristol	-	-	10	50	c	Manchester	-	0.01	9	48	c
Buxton	-	-	7	45	du	Margate	-	0.01	7	45	d
Cardiff	-	-	11	52	du	Morecambe	0.9	0.01	8	46	b
Clacton	-	-	8	46	du	Newcastle	4.6	-	10	50	s
Cleethorpes	0.8	-	10	50	b	Newquay	8.2	-	11	52	s
Colwyn Bay	0.6	-	9	48	c	Norwich	-	0.01	8	46	d
Cromer	-	0.01	7	45	du	Oxford	-	-	9	48	c
Eastbourne	0.1	0.01	9	48	du	Penzance	8.7	-	11	52	s
Edinburgh	2.0	-	10	50	s	Poole	-	-	9	48	c
Eskdalemuir	1.6	0.01	8	46	b	Prestatyn	0.7	-	10	50	b
Exmouth	-	-	9	48	du	Ross on Wye	-	0.01	9	48	c
Fishguard	5.3	-	9	48	s	Saunton Sands	5.6	-	11	52	s
Folkestone	-	-	7	45	c	Shrewsbury	-	-	9	48	c
Glasgow	3.5	0.01	10	50	s	Skegness	-	-	9	48	c
Guernsey	-	0.01	11	52	c	Southend	-	-	8	46	c
Hastings	-	-	8	46	c	Stornoway	-	0.01	10	50	c
Hayling I.	-	-	9	48	c	Swanage	-	-	9	48	c
Herne Bay	-	0.01	7	45	d	Teignmouth	-	-	10	50	c
Hove	-	-	9	48	du	Tenby	7.6	-	10	50	s
Hunstanton	-	-	7	45	du	Tiree	-	0.01	9	48	c
Isle of Man	6.1	-	10	50	s	Torquay	-	-	10	50	c
Isle of Wight	X	0.01	8	46	c	Tynemouth	X	-	10	50	s

Extremes — day max: Boulmer, Northumberland, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria, 6C (43F); most rain: Lerwick, 0.03in; most sun: Penzance, 8.7hr.

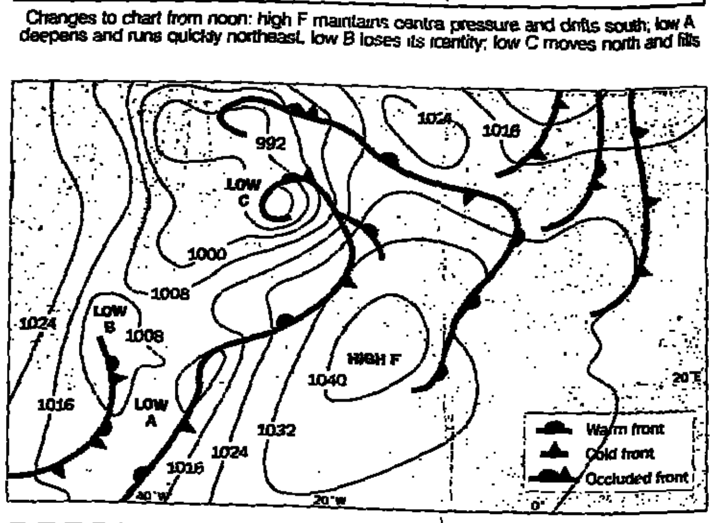
ABROAD

Ajaccio	5	41	s	Cologne	2	36	f	Madrid	9	48	s	Rome	6	43	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	C'phagn	0	32	sl	Majorca	3	37	r	Salzburg	-5	23	f
Alex'dria	22	72	f	Corfu	7	45	c	Malaga	17	63	s	S Frisco	10	50	s
Algiers	6	42	c	Dublin	9	48	c	Malta	8	46	c	Santiago	29	84	s
Amsrdm	6	43	s	Dubrovnik	2	36	s	Melbourne	21	70	f	S Paulo	X		
Athens	9	48	f	Faro	16	61	s	Mexico C	17	63	s	Seoul	2	36	c
Bahrain	23	73	s	Florence	2	36	f	Miami	25	77	s	Singapore	32	90	f
Bangkok	29	84	c	Frankfurt	-2	28	s	Milan	5	41	s	Stockholm	1	34	c
Barbados	X			Funchal	17	63	c	Montreal	-11	12	s	Strasb'rg	-1	30	c
Barcelona	5	41	s	Geneva	-2	28	f	Moscow	-17	1	c	Sydney	25	77	c
Beirut	12	54	s	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Munich	-6	21	sn	Tangier	13	55	c
Belgrade	-5	23	sn	Helsinki	0	32	d	Nairobi	29	84	s	Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Berlin	-5	23	c	Hong K	23	73	f	Naples	5	41	s	Tenerife	20	68	s
Bermuda	12	54	r	Innsbruck	-4	25	s	N Delhi	16	61	s	Tokyo	10	50	s
Biarritz	2	36	s	Istanbul	1	34	f	N York	-4	25	s	Toronto	-2	28	s
Bordeaux	3	37	s	Jeddah	29	84	s	Nice	9	48	s	Tunis	4	39	r
Brussels	3	37	s	Jo'burg	X			Oslo	-1	30	fg	Valencia	9	48	c
Budapest	-3	27	c	L Palmas	20	68	f	Paris	3	37	s	Vanc'ver	6	43	s
B Aires	X			Le Touquet	4	39	s	Perth	23	73	f	Venice	2	36	c
Beijing	9	48	s	Lisbon	12	54	s	Prague	-13	9	s	Vienna	-7	19	s
Cairo	23	73	s	Locarno	4	39	s	Reykjavik	8	46	c	Warsaw	-10	14	s
Cape Tn	X			L Angeles	14	57	s	Rhodes	15	59	f	Wash'ton	1	34	s
Chicago	2	36	f	Luxembg	0	32	f	Rio de J	31	88	s	Wellngton	22	72	X
Ch'church	15	59	s	Luxor	24	75	f	Riyadh	26	79	s	Zurich	-4	25	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY

Changes to chart from noon: high F maintains centre pressure and drifts south; low A deepens and runs quickly northeast; low B loses its identity; low C moves north and fills



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	2:20	4.3	14:29	4.5
Avonmouth	8:19	13.6	20:43	13.5
Belfast	0:00	3.4	12:09	3.7
Cardiff	8:05	12.5	20:29	12.4
Devonport	7:01	5.5	19:25	5.2
Dover	-	-	12:08	6.6
Dublin	0:28	4.1	12:42	4.4
Falmouth	6:32	5.3	18:56	5.0
Greenock	1:39	3.3	13:31	3.7
Harwich	0:38	4.0	13:01	4.0
Holyhead	11:25	5.8	23:49	5.5
Hull (Albert D)	7:24	8.6	19:33	8.9
Ilfracombe	7:03	9.4	19:26	9.2
King's Lynn	7:24	6.5	19:29	6.8
Leith	3:33	5.6	15:54	5.7
Liverpool	0:04	9.4	12:22	9.6
London Bridge	2:49	7.1	15:12	7.4
Lowestoft	10:45	2.5	22:43	2.7
Margate	0:54	4.7	12:24	4.7
Milford Haven	7:19	7.1	19:40	6.9
Newquay	6:10	7.1	18:31	6.9
Oban	6:42	4.1	19:13	3.9
Penzance	5:40	5.7	18:00	5.5
Portland	8:08	2.2	20:38	1.9
Portsmouth	0:05	4.6	12:15	4.7
Shoreham	0:04	6.3	12:13	6.3
Southampton	11:57	4.5	-	-
Swansea	7:21	12.5	19:42	12.2
Tees	4:47	10.0	16:59	10.1
Walton-On-Naze	0:33	4.2	12:57	4.2

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2 1999

Coopers facing £3.5m fine for Maxwell audit failures

Accountancy regulators to impose record penalty

BY ROBERT BRUCE AND JON ASHWORTH

COOPERS & LYBRAND, long-time adviser to Robert Maxwell, is to pay a punitive £3.5 million in fines and costs over failings in its audit work on the late publisher's business empire.

The fine against Coopers, which has since merged to become PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), is the largest ever levied by the accountancy profession's regulators.

The profession's Joint Disciplinary Scheme (JDS) is expected to hand down the fine today after the firm, it is understood, admitted all 35 charges levelled by the tribunal. The report by the disciplinary tribunal headed by Roger Henderson, QC, and Ian McNeil, former president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, will say that in its opinion, "Coopers & Lybrand lost the plot".

Coopers is expected to be castigated in the report for a lack of planning and vigilance in its work.

The report cites two instances where Coopers has admitted that it should have "whistle-blown" to the authorities and another instance in which the firm admits that it should have qualified the accounts of an investment trust which had no books or records detailing assets lent to Robert Maxwell.

The report is also expected to show that work on the Maxwell account was conducted by inexperienced staff. One of the partners had only been a partner for two weeks before taking on the job. The manager on the job had just qualified as an accountant and the rest of the staff were trainees.

The JDS action comes as a serious reputational blow to Coopers, which has long been criticised over the "cosiness" of its relationship with Maxwell. The senior audit partner, Neil Taberner, worked closely with Robert Maxwell for nearly 15 years, in what became one of Coopers's longest client relationships. The firm was paid about £4 million for its audit work in 1991 alone. Mr Taberner remains a PwC partner.

Another senior partner, Peter Walsh, now dead, appeared as a witness in the Maxwell fraud trial. Mr Walsh denied that the firm's standards had been allowed to slip because of Maxwell's domineering personality. A colleague, Stephen Wootten, also giving evidence, denied turning a blind eye to cash movements between Maxwell companies.

Coopers argued that Maxwell's raids on the pension funds occurred after March 1991, when it signed off the books. Maxwell died in November 1991.

Brandon Gough, then senior partner of the firm, said Coopers had never contemplated dropping Maxwell as a client. He said: "You can take it for granted there were some fairly intensive discussions about accounting methods. But if we had any major differences, we would have qualified the audit."

Coopers was appointed auditor to the Maxwell group of companies in 1971, shortly after a report by Board of Trade inspectors into Pergamon Press said Robert Maxwell "could not be relied upon to exercise proper stewardship of a publicly quoted company".

Coopers tried to have the JDS investigation postponed, arguing that it would "impose intolerable strains on the few individuals within Coopers actively involved in the relevant audits". The High Court ruled in December 1994 that the investigation should proceed.

The previous highest penalty levied by the JDS was for £600,000 in costs plus £150,000 in fines against BDO Stoy Hayward over its auditing of Astra. Recoveries are used to bolster the JDS "war chest" to investigate alleged miscreants in the profession.

The JDS is separately investigating complaints against two Coopers partners who led the audit team working on Barings at the time it was laid low by the Nick Leeson "rogue trader" scandal. Coopers is also being investigated over its role as auditor to Resort Hotels, the collapsed hotels group.

Coopers was previously being sued over its auditing by Price Waterhouse as administrators of Maxwell Communication Corporation but that role was transferred to the accountant Grant Thornton because of the two firms' merger.

Commentary, page 27


JAMIE WISEMAN
Brandon Gough said Coopers & Lybrand never contemplated dropping Maxwell as a client

Spectre returns to haunt Gough

BY JASON NISSÉ

UNDERPAID doctors and dentists and hosepipe ban-suffering Yorkshire Water customers will no doubt enjoy a wry smile at the discomfort of Brandon Gough over the Maxwell fine.

Since retiring as chairman of Coopers & Lybrand in 1994, Mr Gough has become a member of the great and good. Hailed as the man who made Coopers into Britain's largest and most successful accountancy firm, he went on to the chairmanships of Yorkshire Water — a controversial appointment for a Kent resident — De La Rue, the Doctors' and Dentists' Pay Review Board and the Higher Education Funding Council.

When Maxwell died, Mr Gough tried to assuage worries about his firm's ties with the publisher and in a briefing at Coopers's offices he dead batted all queries, claiming client confidentiality. Despite his achievements, his ten-year tenure at the head of Coopers will be remembered by most for its coinciding with the scandal of the Maxwell affair.

Threat to City jobs from French bank link-up

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

HUNDREDS of City jobs are under threat after the announcement yesterday of a proposed merger between Societe Génerale and Paribas, two of France's biggest banks.

The €32 billion (£22 billion) merger will create SG Paribas, Europe's second-biggest bank, with €599 billion of assets. The banks said yesterday that the deal would bring cost savings of about €800 million by 2001. The savings are to be made through merging IT functions and job losses.

Daniel Bouton, chairman of Société Génerale, said that there would be no compulsory redundancies in France. However, job losses in other areas of the world were not ruled out. Societe Generale and Paribas each employ about 2,000 people in London. About 800 of these jobs are believed to be in jeopardy.

The majority of those in London are involved in investment banking, although Societé Générale has an asset management division headed by Nicola Horlick. Société Générale last year also bought Hambros, the investment bank.

Executives at the two banks admitted yesterday that the investment banking subsidiaries of the two had only "broken even" last year.

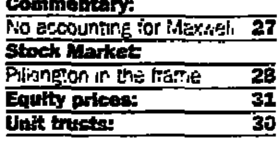
The banking merger may precipitate further consolidation in the European banking sector. BNP, France's biggest bank, is believed to have been rebuffed as a possible suitor for Paribas, as it would have meant too many job losses. BNP may now seek a merger with the soon-to-be-privatised Crédit Lyonnais.

M Bouton, and André Lévy-Lang, chairman of Paribas, said that the introduction of the euro had been one of the triggers of the deal. M Bouton said: "Shortly after the birth of the euro, SG Paribas becomes a leading player in a number of business activities."

The merger will produce a retail bank with five million customers in France. It will also produce an asset management division with more than €200 billion under management, putting it among the top ten fund managers in Europe.

Commentary, page 27

Business Today





Anatole Kaletsky from Davos on stimulating global demand

page 29

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	6012.4	[illegible]
Yield	2.70%	
FTSE All Share	2747.92	[illegible]
Nikkei	14465.18	[illegible]
New York		
Dow Jones	9368.87	[illegible]
S&P Composite	1272.11	[illegible]

US RATE

Federal Funds	[illegible]	[illegible]
Long bond	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yield	5.17%*	(5.09%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	120.06	(120.26)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6400*	(1.6457)
London:		
$	1.6405	(1.6428)
€	1.4512	(1.4466)
SFr.	2.3351	(2.3317)
Yen	188.83	(191.04)
£ Index	100.8	(100.8)

DOLLAR

London:		
€	1.1297*	(1.1363)
SFr.	1.4241*	(1.4153)
Yen	115.10*	(116.30)
$ index	105.3	(105.6)

Tokyo close Yen 115.44

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$11.20	($11.40)

GOLD

London close	$287.55	($286.65)

* denotes midday trading prices

Exchange rates ... Page 26

Merger moves and rate hopes lift shares

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

SHARES yesterday surged back towards record levels as merger activity and hopes of another interest rate cut this week cheered investors.

Analysts seized on a fall in consumer credit and signs that manufacturing is still mired in recession as evidence that the Bank of England will cut rates again on Thursday.

The FTSE 100 index closed up 116.4 at 6,012.4, after failing to maintain a peak of 6,045. Banking and insurance shares were in demand amid further European consolidation in the sector.

Sterling reached a record high to the euro, supported by fears that euroland economic growth is faltering. The euro fell from 69.09p to 68.92p and from $1.1340 to $1.1290.

AXA plays down talk of job losses at Guardian

BY RICHARD MILES

AXA, the French insurance company that controls Sun Life & Provincial Holdings, said yesterday that any job losses resulting from its £3.4 billion acquisition of Guardian Royal Exchange (GRE) would "be in the hundreds, rather than thousands".

The group also confirmed that John Robins, chief executive of GRE, had decided to leave. Departure terms for Mr Robins, who last year earned more than £500,000, including a performance bonus, have yet to be discussed.

Peter Owen, head of PPP, GRE's healthcare arm, is the only senior executive who has been given a place on the board of Sun Life, which will effectively absorb GRE's UK general and life insurance businesses. Sir Colin Chandler, GRE chairman-elect, may also be offered a non-executive role at the enlarged group.

Under the term's of AXA's recommended offer, Sun Life will pay £1.88 billion for GRE UK and Ireland. GRE Germany will be sold to AXA Colonia, the company's 73 per cent-owned German subsidiary, for £588 million, while the US operations will be passed to Liberty Mutual for £888 million. Sun Life is to issue £1.3 billion of shares to fund the deal, with the remaining cash raised through a £2.2 billion bank loan. The offer price of 389p per share represents a 6 per cent premium to GRE's closing price of 367p on Friday.

Mark Wood, group chief executive of Sun Life, said the GRE brand would disappear after its general insurance business was merged with that of AXA. GRE's life business — which generates the equivalent of 10 per cent of Sun Life's life income — will be kept as a separate entity while a review is conducted. The deal is expected to generate annualised savings of £50 million by 2001.

Insurance analysts gave a cautious welcome to the deal, which will increase Sun Life's exposure to general insurance. Mr Wood, however, said the combined group would withdraw from some of the less profitable markets, such as certain lines of motor insurance and reinsurance. The enlarged group will have a market capitalisation of £5.9 billion and assets of £55 billion.

Commentary, page 27
Tempus, page 28

William Hill duo share £6m Nomura bonus

BY ROBERT LEA

THE TWO executives who have helped Nomura, the Japanese finance house, to make a profit of about £170 million on its 14-month investment in the William Hill bookmaking chain are to receive £6.6 million in bonuses for their work.

John Brown, chief executive, who has been with William Hill since leaving school 40 years ago, and Bob Lambert, finance director, are to each receive cash bonuses of £1.6 million plus share allocations of as much as £1.7 million each.

Keeping its promise to make available 10 per cent of its profit on William Hill to the company's management when it floats the company, Nomura will also be paying out a further £10.5 million to another 140 or so executives of the company — giving average windfalls of more than £70,000 per person.

The flotation will also lead to bumper bonuses for the Nomura team headed by Guy Hands, which has seen a 23 per cent rise in the value of William Hill after buying it from Brent Walker at the end of 1997 for a total of £730 million.

News of the payouts came as William Hill firmed up its plans for a stock market flotation, with share trading due to start on February 22. It said that the offer will be priced at between 155p and 175p a share. At the top end, the flotation would value the company, including debt, at £900 million.

Ten per cent of shares will be on offer to members of the public willing to invest at least £1,000. The four share shops handling the issue are already reporting "significant interest".

A Hargreaves Lansdown spokesman said: "Bar Thomson Travel last year, we have not seen such strong demand for a float in recent years."

William Hill yesterday said that it expects group profits for 1998 of £93.5 million, up by nearly 23 per cent on the previous year. Mr Brown said that it had enjoyed a good football World Cup — soccer betting is one of its high-margin areas — which had made up for poor returns on the Grand National and the Cheltenham racing festival.

Mr Brown said that the company wants to add to its 1,500 betting offices, which account for 80 per cent of its £1.7 billion annual turnover.



Societe Generale deal to fuel Europe bank consolidation

EUROPEAN TOP TEN

Rank	Bank	Assets bn
1	UBS	£439
2	SG Paribas	£413
3	Deutsche Bank	£368
4	Credit Suisse	£295
5	Hypovereins	£287
6	HSBC	£276
7	ABN Amro	£259
8	Dresdner	£238
9	Barclays	£233
10	BNP	£214

Deutsche Bank figures do not include newly-acquired Bankers Trust

By Caroline Merrell

THE proposed merger between Société Générale and Paribas looks set to light the touch paper for the further consolidation of the European banking sector.

The deal, which will create Europe's second-largest bank with €599 billion (£413 billion) in assets, comes just weeks after the announcement of the proposed merger between Santander and Banco Central Hispano (BCH), the Spanish banks, a deal that will create one of Europe's top ten banks.

One analyst said yesterday that both the French and the Spanish deals would create a domino effect in their own countries as competing banks are forced into considering their own future strategies.

One of the key drivers behind consolidation is the introduction of the euro, creating as it does one capital market populated by 250 million potential banking customers.

But another is the fact that leading players do not want to see themselves slipping down the league tables in terms of size. "One of the reasons for this deal," said the analyst, "is that Société Générale was recently overtaken over by BNP as France's largest bank." Post merger, SG Paribas will outstrip BNP as France's number one bank.

However, according to Mitchell Madison, the consultant, about 60 per cent of banking mergers fail to increase shareholder value over the long term.

SG Paribas said yesterday that it was hoping to make savings of 800 million euros over three years through rationalisation on the investment technology side, and through a programme of "voluntary redundancies".

However, analysts are sceptical about whether savings of this size would be possible unless more radical measures were taken.

One immediate effect of the merger will be to intensify the pressure on BNP — it now languishes tenth in terms of asset size in Europe. Yesterday's deal means that BNP has now emerged as a favourite to buy into and eventually take over, the state-controlled Credit Lyonnais.

Also up for sale in France is CCF, which is 10 per cent owned by Swiss Life. ING, the Dutch bancassurance group, has expressed an interest in CCF, while another Dutch bank, ABN Amro, is also seen to be under pressure to do a deal.

Elsewhere in Europe, the deal between Santander and BCH in Spain leaves Banco Bilbao Vizcaya (BBV) looking for a partner — this bank has been linked with Argentaria of Spain.

In Germany both Deutsche Bank and Dresdner are on the lookout for acquisitions — the former recently announced a merger with Bankers Trust of the US threatening 3,000 jobs in London.

The two German banks are believed to be eyeing the Italian banking sector for acquisitions. BCI, an Italian bank, has been named as one possible target.

UBS, the Swiss banking group that owns Warburg Dillon Read, is on a European banking shopping spree. It has about £10 billion to spend on buying up a private client bank in Europe.

Penfold sold to Koreans

Penfold golfballs will no longer to be manufactured in England after the sale of the business by its Scottish owners to a South Korean company. Grampian Holdingssaid it was selling Penfold for a profit of £1 million. The company has sold the entire stock and name rights of Penfold golfballs to Seoul Nassau, which operates as Pareto in the UK. Pareto, one of the world's largest manufacturers of golfballs, said that it was closing down Grampian's golfball factory in Birmingham as it would be sourcing balls from South Korea. The closure will result in 75 redundancies.

Oil merger delay

The oil companies Total, of France, and Belgium's PetroFina have withdrawn the filing of their proposed merger with the European Commission. An EU spokesman said he expected the companies to resubmit the deal at a later stage. EU sources had said last week they had concerns that the deal would reduce competition in some areas, including fuel storage.

Thomson buys

Thomson Travel Group, the holiday provider, has bought Simply Travel, the specialist holiday business, for £22.5 million. It has also paid £6.2 million for Scan Holiday, which it says is Poland's largest air-inclusive tour operator with 38 per cent of the market.

Pub groups in talks

Regent Inns and SFI Group, the pub groups, yesterday confirmed they were in preliminary talks that could lead to a full merger. Regent shares rose 2½p to 191p, with SFI gaining 13p to 191½p.

Byers ready to give up final say on mergers

By Philip Webster, political editor

STEPHEN BYERS is preparing a substantial shake-up of merger policy, by ending the role of ministers in most takeover decisions and handing responsibility to a new independent competition authority.

The new Trade and Industry Secretary, who took over from Peter Mandelson just before Christmas, said yesterday that it was time to improve the system and to show business that the Government did not wish to stand in the way of them making decisions.

But Mr Byers also made plain that in sensitive areas — he cited newspapers and defence procurement industries — the Secretary of State would continue to have a role.

Mr Byers's expected decision to hive off the bulk of merger decisions will please the Treasury which is understood to have urged it on both Margaret Beckett and Mr Mandelson, his immediate predecessors.

But Mr Byers said it was a more complicated issue than handing the Bank of England control of interest rates, because of the whole range of decisions that could be taken about mergers.

He said: "We are doing a lot of work on this. I am of the view that we can improve the present system. I think we can improve it in a way that business will recognise we do not want to stand in the way of businesses making decisions — provided that at the end of it in some areas there will need to be Secretary of State involvement because of the wider considerations."

He said there would be "sectors" where ministerial involvement would remain "but on the broad picture there is a strong case for looking at it and considering a diffferent approach."

Mr Byers said he would publish a consultation paper in March which would contain the Government's view.

He also disclosed that he would be publishing an "implementation plan" next month showing how the recommendations in Mr Mandelson's competitiveness White Paper would be put into effect.

He said that he was "disappointed" by criticisms of the Government's attitude to manufacturing from Lord Paul, one of Labour's most high-profile business supporters. He said he hoped that the implementation plan would convince him that Labour was doing things in different ways and not making the mistakes of the past.

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SUZANNE HUBBARD



Sir John Egan, who saw shares of BAA rise after it reported pre-tax profits up 6 per cent

BAA to impose levy after abolition of duty-free

By Adam Jones

BAA, the airports operator, has been given the green light to levy an extra £55 million a year from passengers to compensate for losses caused by the abolition of duty-free in Europe.

The levy, equivalent to 70p per passenger, was authorised by the Civil Aviation Authority and will be phased in over two years. BAA claimed it will lose £77 million a year in net profit when duty-free on European flights is abolished in July.

However, the abolition may be postponed after pressure from European governments. Russell Walls, finance director, said a decision may be announced in the next six weeks.

BAA, whose chief executive is Sir John Egan, denied suggestions that it was introducing another charge. From April 1, passengers will see an airport fee listed beside the airfare on their ticket. BAA emphasised yesterday that this is a cost that was previously included in the airfare itself.

Shares of BAA yesterday rose from 723p to 765p after the company published nine-month figures. Pre-tax profits for the period were up 6 per cent to £440 million, buoyed by better than expected performance at its BAA-McArthur/Glen shopping mall business.

Sales overall rose 17 per cent to £1.51 billion. The number of passengers passing through BAA airports — Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Southampton — rose from 82 million to 88 million.

Johnston keeps P&S in sights

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor

TIM BOWDLER, chief executive of Johnston Press, said yesterday that the failed tender offer for 10 per cent of Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers was only "a minor skirmish in a long campaign".

Last month Johnston, the fifth-largest regional press group, paid £16 a share, or £28.7 million, for a 14.99 per cent stake in P&S. At the same time Johnston launched a £16 a share tender, which closed on Saturday, for a further 10 per cent. It received acceptances in respect of less than 1 per cent and as a result the offer is declared void.

Johnston is pushing ahead with its request for permission to take a controlling interest in P&S, which publishes 23 newspapers and owns more than 200 convenience stores. The group expects a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry to begin this week.

At least two parties have had preliminary talks with P&S — Newsquest, the third-largest regional group, and Charles Villiers, who built up the local papers side of Scottish Radio Holdings, and who is working with financial backers.

Grid buys its second US group

By Christine Buckley

NATIONAL GRID yesterday bought its second US power group in just over a month with a $634 million (£386 million) deal in New England.

The operator of the UK's electricity transmission network is to be the owner of Eastern Utilities Associates (EUA) after it was bought by its neighbour New England Electric System (NEES) — the company that National Grid acquired in December for £2.7 billion.

The Grid faces a series of regulatory hurdles, but hopes both purchases will be complete by 2000. David Jones, chief executive, said he was confident the deals would not be blocked. He said: "This is an interlocking of two companies as far as territory is concerned. The Massachusetts regulator is enthusiastic about consolidation in the region, so we are unlikely to face tough scrutiny."

The Grid expects to make annual cost savings of about $25 million by cutting 250 jobs and merging some customer service and distribution facilities.

The Grid sold £1.2 billion of its shares in Energis, the telecoms company, earlier this month in order to fund its expansion plans.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Blue Circle takeover talks concluding

BLUE CIRCLE, the building materials group, yesterday confirmed that it is in the final stages of takeover talks that could lead to the sale of its Armitage Shanks bathrooms division. Although the company has received a number of serious approaches for the business, currently valued at about £250 million, it is believed that Ideal Standard of the US is the front-runner for the bath and toilet-making unit.

Other potential buyers who have expressed an interest since the business was put on the market in September include Villeroy & Boch of Germany, Sanitac of Finland and Keramik Laufen of Switzerland. The company said an announcement would be made in due course. The division, which includes Ceramica Dolomite, Blue Circle's Italian bathroom fittings manufacturer, employs 2,250 workers in the UK, based largely in the Midlands, and in Italy. Blue Circle shares rose 22p at 322p.

Sanctuary stronger

SANCTUARY, the media company that recently won a contract to manage the Pet Shop Boys, the pop group, yesterday reported strong growth in profits from its screen and music divisions. Sanctuary reported pre-tax profits of £1.4 million for the nine months to September 30, 1998, on sales of £13 million, compared with pro forma pre-tax profits of £1.3 million and sales of £18 million during the 12 months to December 31, 1997. Earnings per share were 1.27p (1.04p). A total dividend for 1998 of 0.15p will be paid on April 30.

UNO cuts dividend

UNO, the furniture retailer, cut its interim dividend yesterday as it reported that sales have deteriorated badly in the past few weeks. In the ten weeks to January 16, underlying sales were down 29.9 per cent. In the six preceding months, like-for-like sales were down 11.6 per cent. The company, which includes World of Leather, incurred an interim pre-tax loss of £1.68 million, from a £457,000 pre-tax profit at the same time last year. It is to pay an interim dividend of just 0.4p (1.85p) on a loss per share of 6.23p (1.7p earnings).

Slow start for Beale

BEALE, the department store group, reported a slow start to trading in the first quarter. Although sales over the Christmas period were in line with last year, the January sale disappointed, with sales down 3.5 per cent for the first 12 weeks to January 23. For the year ended October 31, pre-tax profit was £4.2 million, from £4.3 million last time. Turnover was £64.7 million, up from £62.4 million. Earnings per share were 13.50p (14.55p) and the final dividend is 3.25p (3.25p), making a total for the year of 4.90p (4.75p).

Emerald seeks funds

EMERALD ENERGY, the oil company, is seeking up to £17.09 million from a placing and open offer. It needs funds to develop two wells in Colombia — Chawina 3, on the Apula block, and Gigante 1A, on the Matambo block. Emerald said that it believes there is a giant field at Apula, with a 1.9 billion barrel prospect. The company will place 148.6 million shares, along with an open offer of up to 168.12 million shares at 3½p, and will also issue up to £6 million of convertible loan notes.

Egg cuts interest rate

EGG, the banking arm of Prudential, has cut the interest rate on its savings account by 0.75 points, to 6.5 per cent. The move was widely expected after the expiry at the end of last month of its guarantee to maintain its chart-topping 7.25 per cent. The rate was considered unsustainable when base rates have already fallen to 6 per cent. The new rate keeps Egg ahead of its main rival, Virgin Direct, on 6.25 per cent. For the savings account with cashcard, the rate falls 0.75 points to 6 per cent.

Whittard's warning

WHITTARD, the tea and coffee retailer, gave warning that current-year profits will fall below last year's. Pre-tax profits fell from £433,000 to £284,000 in the half year to November 30. Total sales rose 19 per cent, to £16.9 million. However, on a like-for-like basis, they fell in the period and have, said Whittard, stayed slightly under last year's level in the second half's first few weeks. Earnings per share were 1.1p (1.4p). The interim dividend remains 1.15p. The group has 118 UK stores.

Birchin back in black

BIRCHIN INTERNATIONAL, the conference venue operator, earned pre-tax profits of £748,000 in the year to September 30, compared with losses of £2 million in the previous 12 months. Earnings were 0.11p a share, compared with a 1.29p loss. There is again no dividend. Turnover increased to £6 million from just £938,000 previously. Colyn Gardner, the chairman, said that in the first quarter of 1999 the company was showing higher profits.

Sun chief fears computer bug problems at suppliers

From Janet Bush, economics editor, in Davos

THE chairman of one of the largest US computer companies said yesterday that customers ought to buy their computers this year because production could be disrupted next year by millennium bug problems.

Scott McNealy, head of Sun Microsystems, gave warning that Asian suppliers of computer components are between one and three years behind in terms of dealing with the millennium bug.

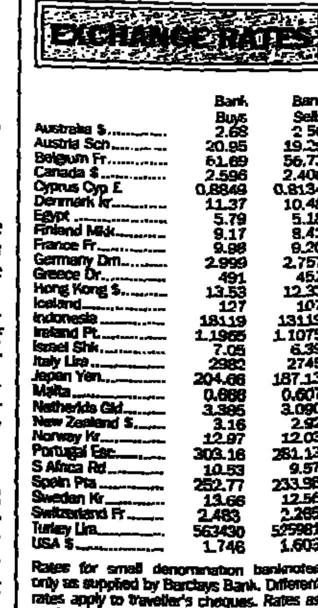
Although he was the only senior computer executive to speak so openly about his fears, the chief executive of one of the top five US information technology groups added his voice privately to the concern about Asian companies. Brazil, another big supplier of components, is also a serious worry.

Although many leading multinational corporations deem themselves ready to neutralise the bug, they are deeply concerned about companies along their supply chains.

One economist, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that just-in-time manufacturing could be badly hit as supply chains fall apart. He drew a comparison with the 1970s recession which was caused by a disruption of the supply of oil.

The World Bank is sufficiently concerned about the lack of preparedness for the year 2000 in the developing world that it is making grants available from a fund supported by the British Government.

One World Bank official said that several developing countries had said that they intended to "wait and see what happens in Australia and New Zealand because they will hit the millennium before us".



EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.68	2.50
Austria Sch	20.95	19.29
Belgium Fr	61.69	56.73
Canada $	2.596	2.408
Cyprus Cyp £	0.8849	0.8134
Denmark Kr	11.37	10.48
Egypt	5.79	5.18
Finland Mkk	9.17	8.42
France Fr	9.98	9.20
Germany Dm	2.999	2.757
Greece Dr	491	452
Hong Kong $	13.53	12.33
Iceland	127	107
Indonesia	18119	13119
Ireland Pt	1.1965	1.1075
Israel Shk	7.05	6.39
Italy Lira	2982	2745
Japan Yen	204.66	187.13
Malta	0.668	0.607
Netherlds Gld	3.385	3.090
New Zealand $	3.16	2.92
Norway Kr	12.97	12.03
Portugal Esc	303.16	281.13
S Africa Rd	10.53	9.57
Spain Pta	252.77	233.98
Sweden Kr	13.66	12.56
Switzerland Fr	2.483	2.265
Turkey Lira	563430	525981
USA $	1.746	1.603

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

No accounting for Maxwell



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

For an organisation with £8 billion of turnover, a £3.5 million fine is unlikely to hit the partners' pockets. But the record punishment inflicted on Coopers & Lybrand for its role in the Maxwell affair should not be as painless as the figures might imply.

The accounting firm played a crucial role in sustaining the fraudster while he duped investors and robbed pension funds. He and his shareholders paid heavily to secure the name of Coopers & Lybrand at the bottom of their accounts. The signatures helped to persuade doubters that all was well in the Maxwell empire: they might as well have been written in sand.

Robert Maxwell had form: he had been branded by the Department of Trade as unfit to be a director of a public company. Even if the partners of Coopers had the generosity of spirit to believe that offenders should not be permanently consigned to the wilderness, they might have been expected to want to keep an extra close eye on how Mr Maxwell made use of his second chance.

That they chose to depute relative novices to investigate the Maxwell accounts implies either extraordinary naivety or, perhaps, a wish to avoid confrontation. Whatever it was, it did not seem to be reflected in the level of fees charged, which were sufficient to give investors the idea that they were paying for a top of the range service from a firm which was one of the leading practices in the country.

Now Coopers & Lybrand is no more — it has metamorphosed into PricewaterhouseCoopers. But with 135,000 staff to choose from, can there be any assurance that dubious clients will not still find themselves subject to the expensive scrutiny of accountancy's equivalent of teenage scribblers rather than the piercing stare of those who know when the wool is being pulled over their eyes? The JDC's decision should make clients ponder whether big is always best.

Although it was 1991 when Robert Maxwell left his yacht for the last time, his shadow still lingers over many of those who did business with him. His loan to Peter Mandelson provided a neat excuse for Geoffrey Robinson to duck out of the Paymaster General's role, but questions over the multi-millionaire's involvement with Maxwell were beginning to get embarrassing.

The feisty Helen Liddell, now out of the Treasury and up in Scotland, also worked closely with the man who punched a £400 million hole in the group's pension funds. The Maxwell connection is also an embarrassment to Lord Donoghue, who chaired the Bishopsgate Trust as it inadvertently allowed the fraudster to shuffle assets around. The Department of Trade and Industry's views on the activities of the man it tried to blacklist have still to emerge. Its report into the affair remains unpublished. Stephen Byers might not thrill all his colleagues by doing so but he should try to expedite the process.

A champion day for the French

What a grand day for the French. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Finance Minister, hailed "the building of a strong and dynamic French financial sector at the heart of the euro". Even President Chirac joined in the great national day.

Messrs Blair, Brown and Byers should take note. France's day of joy was occasioned by two takeover bids. Société Générale, one of the big three retail banks, created France's first world-class, or even EU-scale, competitor by merging with Paribas, the top business bank. A previous attempt, via the state-owned Crédit Lyonnais, did not quite come off.

AXA, France's national champion in insurance and Paribas's biggest shareholder, helped to beget that deal. It may well have encouraged Soc Gen to drop its lawsuit against the latest rescue of Lyonnais. That opens the way for SG Paribas, like AXA and Allianz, its other top shareholder, to become a core investor in the privatised Lyonnais, and decide its future too.

In France, there is no nonsense about Chinese walls, no pretence that government leaves such important things to the markets. There is also a clear understanding that, as M Strauss-Kahn puts it: "Our country must be able to count on companies which have the means necessary to develop on a national, European and world scale".

On the same day, AXA underlined the point and built up its own European credentials by persuading GRE to eschew a UK deal and be broken up. AXA should thereby become the third-biggest UK composite insurer, top dog in Ireland and much stronger in Germany.

Did the UK Government play a part in the fate of GRE? Does it have regular meetings with "core" shareholders to work out how to build world-scale UK banks and insurance groups? That the question sounds postively bizarre indicates the answer.

France does not always win the cartel approach to European integration, partly because it insists on being senior partner. British Aerospace's merger with Marconi and the Anglo-German stock exchange deal left Paris screaming foul, but rightly refusing to give up. Having home-based global companies is good for jobs, wealth, and influence in Europe.

Apart from HSBC, Britain is in danger of ending up with competitive markets but no British global bank, let alone a world-scale insurer. Someone should start thinking who is to take over Royal & SunAlliance for a start.

Incumbent with a tricky task

Even when he is not wearing the full regalia that goes with being Lord Mayor of London, Lord Levene of Portsoken is a formidable figure. If the new authority for London were already in being, then whether it were headed by Ken Livingstone, Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare or any other of the candidates to have emerged, then it is hard to escape the suspicion that London's most influential figure might still be the incumbent of the Mansion House.

Having moved easily between Whitehall and the City, saving the Canary Wharf project en route, Lord Levene is more than a match for mere politicians. But he could find all his talents as a fixer called into play as opponents try to block the City's efforts at gently reforming itself.

Widening the franchise, as the City is proposing to do, is radical from the point of view of those who still cherish the right to lead sheep into the Square Mile. But the proposals for increasing the business vote do not go far enough to satisfy all those who want to see change in the running of the Corporation. It may be a highly effective local authority, benefiting from being run without taint of party politics; it may distribute charity on a lavish scale to deserving causes but it is still seen by some as an anachronism.

Lord Levene may face the tricky task of persuading those who are enthusiastically doing away with hereditary peers that London needs two mayors.

Duty bound

WHILE publicly BAA is looking towards a future without the benefit of duty-free sales, the company seems increasingly confident that its source of £77 million profit is safe for a while longer. BAA is ready to replace most of it with a levy on air travellers but Brussels' inability to come up with a viable regime to replace the current duty-free system is stalling change. With the July deadline looming, Brussels must soon announce a postponement — or face that favourite summer headline: holiday chaos.

ECC poised to join the Imetal fold

By Paul Armstrong

ENGLISH China Clays (ECC), the supplier of paper whitener, is poised to fall into the hands of a rival, Imetal, after the French conglomerate announced yesterday that it would lift its takeover offer by £76 million.

Analysts said that, in the absence of a higher counter-bid, institutional shareholders would almost certainly adopt the recommendation of ECC directors to accept Imetal's revised £756 million offer.

Imetal's fresh bid is worth 250p a share. ECC shares were trading at 160p shortly before Imetal unveiled its initial offer of 225p on January 11. ECC shares fell 1p to 241p.

Dennis Rediker, ECC chief executive, yesterday said that the increased bid was fair, though some major shareholders had told him that they were dismayed at the low value that the City placed on businesses such as ECC.

ECC's core business is providing kaolin-based whitener to the paper industry. It also manufactures water treatment products.

Imetal, listed on the Paris stock exchange, also supplies kaolin products, and has interests in metal processing and building materials.

Patrick Kron, Imetal's chief executive, said that his company had no kaolin operations in Europe, meaning that there would be no job losses at ECC's Cornwall plant arising from production overlap. However, he gave warning that the Cornwall operations needed to be competitive, though it was too early to say whether a search for improved productivity would lead to staff cuts.

Mr Rediker said that Imetal had asked him to remain with the company, though a formal offer would not be made until the bid was unconditional.

Both companies have kaolin operations in America, raising anti-trust issues requiring Imetal to win US regulatory approval.

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Bankers chief to be paid $55m

From Oliver August in New York

FRANK NEWMAN, executive chairman of Bankers Trust, will be paid at least $55 million (£33 million) over the next five years to merge the operations of the US bank with Deutsche Bank after their $10 billion merger.

Mr Newman, a former US government official, is receiving extra compensation for taking a downgraded role as a member of Deutsche's board.

As head of one of the top US banks, he was paid $16 million for the years 1995 to 1997. In 1998 Bankers Trust recorded a $6 million loss after a $488 million hit from market turmoil.

Mr Newman, although almost pushed out after that debacle, has now negotiated a contract with Deutsche Bank guaranteeing him a salary of $900,000 a year and a $10.1 million bonus. It is thought to make him the best-paid executive in Deutsche.

British Land buys again in Broadgate

By Saeed Shah

BRITISH LAND, the property group, has tightened its hold over the Broadgate office development in the City of London with the £203 million acquisition of 155 Bishopsgate.

The 410,000 sq ft property, known as Bishopsgate Exchange, was bought from a consortium led by Prudential of America. British Land, which already owned the 16.6 per cent ground rent interest in the building, has the virtual freehold of the site (a 990-year lease at peppercorn rent).

The tenants include Baring Investment Services, Sumitomo Trust and Barclays Bank, with most leases expiring in 2019. The initial rental income is £17.2 million a year. The purchase, funded from existing resources, takes British Land's ownership to 13 of the 15 Broadgate estate properties.

Inchcape set to give back cash

By Fraser Nelson

INCHCAPE, the international trading company, is poised to return up to £150 million to shareholders after selling its Coca-Cola bottling operations in Latin America for £457 million.

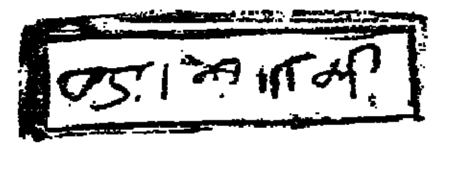
The company is also understood to be within weeks of selling its shipping interests for about £100 million.

It is selling all its fizzy drinks bottling assets to Arica, a smaller local rival, part-owned by Coca-Cola. The deal is dependent on Arica raising almost three times its £160 million market value through a rights issue on the Chilean stock market and raising debt finance in New York.

Philip Cushing, chief executive, said the disposal was the largest step in its transformation to becoming a dedicated car dealer and importer.

There had been fears that the Latin American financial crisis could take up to £200 million off Inchcape's asking price. The City is expecting a special dividend of about 23p per share, rather than a share buyback.

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Pilkington in the frame as buyers seek bargains

IT WAS bargain basement time in the Square Mile as the buyers again came in for the companies that look vulnerable to a bid, or simply cheap.

Leading the way higher was **Pilkington**, Britain's biggest glassmaker, with a rise of 5p to 64½p. It was the heaviest traded stock among the second-liners with almost 27 million shares, or 2.5 per cent of the company, changing hands. Pilkington was mentioned on these pages just a couple of weeks back when the price stood at 53p.

The speculators claim it looks vulnerable to a bid from rivals such as St Gobain, the French company. Others say the shares just look cheap, having tumbled from a peak of 148p last year.

Dealers reported heavy turnover in another takeover favourite, **BICC**, 5p dearer at 63½p, on turnover of 10.76 million shares. The cables and construction group, which includes Balfour Beatty, slumped to a new low of 38p in November, leading to claims about a break-up bid.

Weir Group stood out with a rise of 25½p to 232p on talk of a bid of 300p emerging soon.

Speculative buying continued to drive **Laird Group** higher with the price finishing 22p dearer at 219½p. Others to attract attention because they look cheap or vulnerable include **Senior Engineering**, 8p better at 129½p, and **Johnson Matthey**, 23½p higher at 442p.

Share prices generally got the week off to a flying start fuelled by a fresh round of corporate activity in the banking and insurance sector and mounting hopes of another cut in interest rates this week.

The FTSE 100 index closed below its best of the day as Wall Street struggled to extend Friday's gains in opening trading last night. But it still sported a rise of 116.4 at 6,012.4 with a total of 1.2 billion shares changing hands. The FTSE 250 index rose 97.6 at 5,121.8.

The telecom sector remained busy on hopes of further consolidation. There were gains for **COLT Telecom**, 81½p to £13.41½, **British Telecom**, 38½p to 969p, **Energis**, 60p to £16.90, **Orange**, 39p to 934½p, and **Fibernet**, 17½p to 470p.

Guardian Royal Exchange, whose chairman is Lord Hambro, retreated 6½p to 361p as the prospect of an all-out auction of the company began to recede. AXA, the French insurer, has already made an agreed £3.4 billion offer for GRE via Sun Life & Provincial Holdings, the UK insurance group that is 71 per cent owned by AXA, and it now seems unlikely that rival **Royal & SunAlliance**, up 21½p at 483½p, will join the fray. There has also been talk of a consortium of European insurers putting together an offer, but it has, so far, failed to materialise.



Lord Hambro, left, and Lord Douro, Sun Life & Provincial chairman, saw GRE dip as prospects of an auction faded

The banks were bolstered by news of the merger between Société Générale and Paribas and the prospect of further falls in interest rates. But the best levels were not held. **Barclays** rose 31p to £13.91, **Alliance & Leicester** 23p to 778p, **NatWest Bank** 39p to £11.55 and **Standard Chartered** 31p to 869p.

EMI Group touched 410p before closing 1p easier at 389½p with investors unconvinced by the decision of Merrill Lynch, the broker, to upgrade its recommendation for the shares from "reduce" to "neutral". It points out the shares have underperformed by 30 per cent during the past year and has cut its forecast of pre-tax profits for the current year by £5 million to £225 million.

A further contraction of the motor distributors appears to be on the cards judging by the price of **Dixons Motors**, up 16½p at 117p. City speculators have been excited by recent corporate activity in the sector, including Ford's bid for **Dagenham Motors**, unchanged at 158p.

International Biotechnology Trust was up another 1p to 43¾p amid signs that it is close to resolving the impasse over its proposed merger with Biotechnology Investments, the other fund advised by the Rothschild Bioscience Unit. Shares in IBT have climbed steeply since last Wednesday when more than 13 million changed hands. The merger discussions have dragged on since June because of wrangling. At one stage, BIL proposed replacing Rothschild as its adviser. One suggestion is that the RBU's Jeremy Curnock Cook may seek to take over the management of IBT.

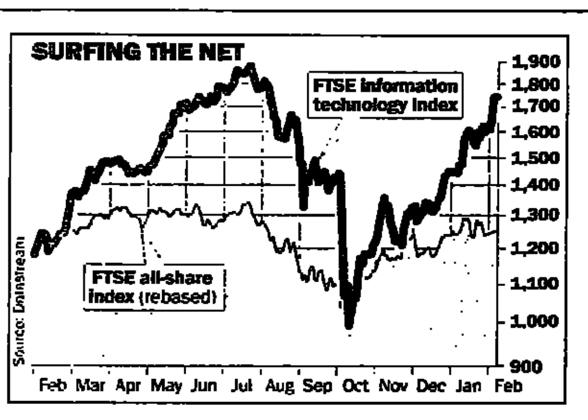
Channel Holdings held steady at 5¾p as Nicholas Jeffrey, a director, picked up 250,000 shares at 4p.

Fresh stakebuilding hoisted **JBA Holdings** 23½p to 117½p. Specialist Computer Holdings has acquired 250,000 shares, taking its total holding to 1.1 million, or almost 3 per cent. JBA has plunged from a peak of £12.57½ during the past year.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Bond prices kicked off the week on a positive note with most investors pinning their hopes on another cut in interest rates when the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee meets tomorrow.

Sentiment was bolstered by the latest fall, in the purchasing managers' index which should provide the MPC with further scope to signal another cut in rates. In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt rose 17p to £120.06, while among conventional issues Treasury 9 per cent 2008 was 19p cheaper at £138.

□ **NEW YORK:** Shares held onto early gains in late morning trade after the release of strong economic data. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 10.04 at 9,368.87.



ALAN GREENSPAN'S attempts at bursting the Internet bubble appear to have met with only limited success. The ratings enjoyed by information technology companies in the US remain high and continue to spill over into Europe.

Sutherlands, the broker, confirms that the rerating of the US companies is continuing to drive sentiment for the sector in London.

Interest in the IT stocks is likely to remain high with the industry about to embark on its reporting season. This reporting season will be crucial to the overall outcome. The picture is also likely to be enhanced by analysts' visits to Sema, up 62p to 743p, and Misys, 22½p dearer at 661½p, to see its US acquisition Medic.

Positive performances were also inspired by the bid approaches for Delphi, 110p better at 485p and Tetra, 56p to 243½p.

There were gains for Admiral, 105p to £13.82½, Logica, 43½p to 666p, ECSoft, 62½p to £21.07½ and MSB International, 29p to 263½p.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 9368.87 (+10.04)
S&P Composite .... 1272.11 (-7.53)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 14465.18 (-34.07)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9599.55 (+92.65)

Amsterdam:
AEX Index .... 540.01 (+7.92)

Sydney:
AO .... 2923.70 (-29.90)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 5190.82 (+30.86)

Singapore:
Straits .... 1406.87 (-21.27)

Brussels:
BEL20 .... 3444.90 (+33.31)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 4303.92 (+52.12)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 1479.80 (+17.60)

London:

FT 30	3638.7 (+83.2)
FTSE 100	6012.4 (+116.4)
FTSE 250	5121.8 (+97.6)
FTSE 350	2847.4 (+55.0)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2833.26 (+46.67)
FTSE All-Share	2747.92 (+51.98)
FTSE Non Financials	2826.33 (+57.11)
FTSE Fixed Interest	158.30 (-0.06)
FTSE Govt Secs	116.78 (-0.24)
Bargains	86955
SEAQ Volume	1209.0m
US$	1.6404 (-0.0029)
Euro	0.6892 (-0.0017)
£:SDR	1.1853
Exchange Index	100.8 (n/c)

Bank of England official close (4pm)
RPI .... 164.4 Dec (2.8%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX .... 162.4 Dec (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AIM VCT	100	...	
Abbey Natl Dublin Inv	88	-	1
BFS O'seas Inc & Gwth Cap	98½	+	1
BFS O'seas Inc & Gwth Inc	118½	...	
Close Bros Dev VCT	100	...	
Five Arrs Uts Cv Ln 2040	107	+	¼
Gander Properties	7	...	
Jupiter En Zero Dv Pf	108¾	+	½
Jupiter Enhanced Inc	99	+	1
Singer & Frd AIM VCT	100	...	
Virtual Internet	210	-	15
Yeoman II Equity Units	100½	+	½
Yeoman II Inv Tst Cap	5¾	+	½
Yeoman II Inv Tst Inc	96¼	...	
Yeoman II Zero Div Pf	116½	+	¼

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Central Pacific	185¾	+ 42½	+ 29.6
Delphi	485	+110	+ 29.3
JBA Hldgs	117½	+ 23½	+ 25.0
Sthern Pacific	73½	+ 12¼	+ 20.0
Coutts Cnsltg	26½	+ 4	+ 17.7
Havelock Euro	36½	+ 5	+ 15.8
Lilleshall	54½	+ 7	+ 14.7
BTR	123	+ 15	+ 13.8
Lorien	127½	+ 15	+ 13.3
RJB	72½	+ 8	+ 12.4
Regent Inns	191	+ 21	+ 12.3
Weir	232	+ 25½	+ 12.3
Siebe	229½	+ 24½	+ 11.9
Russell (A)	76½	+ 8	+ 11.6
Berkeley Gp	492½	+ 51	+ 11.5
Cookson	146½	+ 15	+ 11.4
Laird	219½	+ 22	+ 11.1
Estates Agency	500	+ 50	+ 11.1
Diagonal	1112½	+110	+ 10.9
Morgan Cble	227½	+ 22	+ 10.7
Amberley Gp	62½	+ 6	+ 10.6
Wainhomes	105½	+ 10	+ 10.4
IMI	249	+ 23	+ 10.1
Tomkins	235	+ 20¾	+ 9.6
BPB	230	+ 20¼	+ 9.6
Inchcape	149½	+ 13	+ 9.5
Sema Gp	743	+ 62	+ 9.1
Beazer	156	+ 13	+ 9.0
Medeva	108	+ 9	+ 9.0
BICC	63½	+ 5	+ 8.5
Croda	242½	+ 19	+ 8.5
Pilkington	64½	+ 5	+ 8.4
Laporte	567½	+ 44	+ 8.4
Admiral	1382½	+105	+ 8.2

FALLS:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Jacques Vert	13½	- 3½	- 20.5
Utd Carriers	25	- 5	- 16.6
IOC Intl	50½	- 10	- 16.5
Network Tech	25½	- 4½	- 15.0
Orbis	23	- 3	- 11.5

TEMPUS

Make hay as Sun dips

THE sale of Guardian Royal Exchange to Sun Life & Provincial is neat. In keeping the whole lot together shareholders in GRE — a distressed and odd-shaped animal — were saved the risk that a break-up designed to maximise value might actually turn into a messy, value-destroying, fire sale. But Sun Life's close relationship with AXA of France gave it the opportunity to find buyers for the unwanted ex-UK businesses with relative ease.

Good for GRE, maybe. But the 9 per cent fall in Sun Life's share price suggests it is less blessed. Indeed, the acquisition will bring £1.3 billion worth of new shares into being, expanding the share capital by 22 per cent and diluting value going forward. There are also market concerns that Sun Life is paying too much for GRE, at 389p a share. Moreover, Sun Life accompanied news of the GRE deal with a profit forecast that disappointed some of the more bullish observers.

All the concerns are legitimate, but GRE was too good an opportunity for Sun Life to miss. Critical mass is vital, and GRE propels Sun Life to the number three slot in composite insurance in this country behind Royal & SunAlliance and CGU. It also consolidates Sun Life as Britain's third largest life insurer. Good cost savings should flow from the deal, too.

The expansion of the number of shares in issue may cause a short-term pause in share price growth, but the associated dilution of AXA's holding in Sun Life from 72 per cent to 56 per cent will bring a welcome easing of what has been a tight market for the shares.

Although Sun Life is itself still impervious to a bid yesterday's tumble in the share price is a buying opportunity. Accumulate.

Inchcape

PHILIP CUSHING, chief executive of Inchcape, is proving himself an able auctioneer. The £467 million fetched for the Latin American disposals confirmed yesterday represents the equivalent of more than half Inchcape's stock market value. Not bad for a division that produced 6 per cent of the profits and which is operating against unenviable economic pressures, in the unenviably tough industry of bottling soft drinks.

But the sale, the largest piece of a restructuring set in train last March, raises awkward questions for Mr Cushing and his chairman, Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge. The restructuring was designed to enhance shareholder value — value that remains obstinately absent.

Last March Inchcape shares were trading at 220p but even after yesterday's near 10 per cent rise the stock is still shy of 150p — half the level of two years ago and a quarter of what the shares were worth in early 1995.

Admittedly Inchcape's chances of success have been adversely affected by market and economic tremors. But the whole exercise is beginning to look unfortunately like Hillsdown Holdings' break-up which singularly failed to create any value at all. There is no escape, it would seem, from commoditised, price-sensitive, markets.

Inchcape's debt puts it in the position of offering shareholders the buyback carrot. But do not expect the glow from that to last long. Look for the exit.

ENHANCING SHAREHOLDER VALUE?
FTSE all-share index (rebased)
Inchcape share price
450p 400 350 300 250 200 150 100 50
1996 1997 1998 1999
Source: Datastream

Serco

SERCO'S shares have recovered their poise since October, when they briefly fell below £8 after a spate of selling by directors. Suggestions of trading problems had proved unfounded even before the facilities management company wowed the market with news of an impressive link-up with Nomura International. Yesterday the shares powered on 90p to 1317½p.

Nomura is backing a £1 billion fund to acquire public assets such as the National Air Traffic Control System and London Underground. These assets will then be managed by Serco.

The relationship plays to the partners' strengths. Nomura's Guy Hands and his Principal Finance Group have pulled off a series of high-profile deals as the Japanese bank has used its clout to buy — among other things — the William Hill betting shops and Radio Rentals. For its part, Serco has quintupled in value over the past four years, a prime beneficiary of the trend towards outsourcing exactly like that envisaged by the Government and its Private Finace Initiative. Serco already runs London's Docklands Light Railway and the UK's four-minute nuclear attack warning system.

This is a promising move by Serco, a company with solid long-term prospects. However, on almost 40 times' estimates of this year's earnings, the rating looks perilously high. Only hold.

ECC

DOES 11 per cent constitute a "wide margin"? Dennis Rediker, the chief executive of English China Clays, clearly thinks it does.

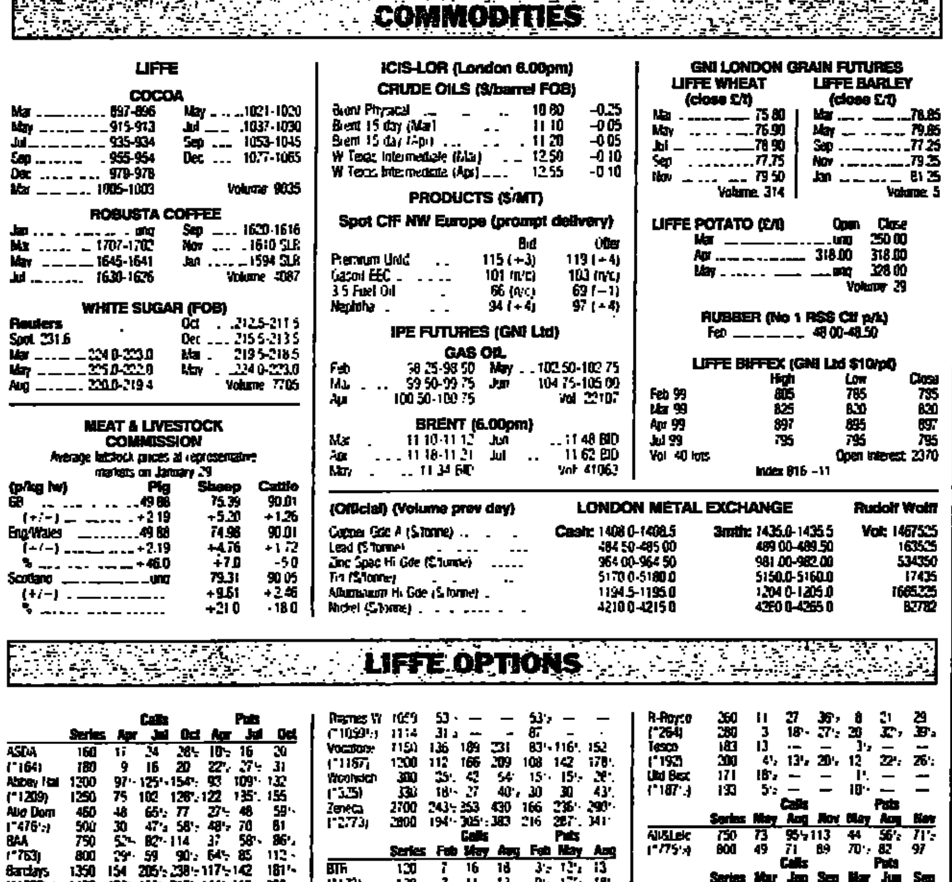
Imetal improved its offer for ECC yesterday by 25p (or 11 per cent) and in the process won a recommendation from Mr Rediker and the board of this embattled company. Yet two weeks ago Mr Rediker rejected Imetal's advances, accusing it of undervaluing ECC by "a wide margin".

The rejection of the first approach always looked like brinkmanship and given the tremendously tricky environment occupied by ECC the strategy could have gone horribly wrong. Had Imetal stomped off in a fit of Gallic pique at Mr Rediker's luck-pushing exercise there were no obvious bid rivals riding to the rescue.

The raised 250p a share cash bid is equivalent to 12 times' estimated earnings per share for 1998. That is hardly generous but given the appalling and entrenched difficulties facing ECC it is fair, especially as the 1998 earnings estimate is lower than the actual figure for 1997. Perhaps an 11 per cent uplift does close a "wide" margin.

Barring the miracle appearance of a second buyer, take Imetal's money and run.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



COMMODITIES

LIFFE — COCOA

Mar	897-896	May	1021-1020
May	915-913	Jul	1037-1030
Jul	935-934	Sep	1053-1045
Sep	955-954	Dec	1077-1065
Dec	979-978		
Mar	1005-1003	Volume	9035

ROBUSTA COFFEE

Jan	unq	Sep	1620-1616
Mar	1707-1702	Nov	1610 SLR
May	1645-1641	Jan	1594 SLR
Jul	1630-1626	Volume	4087

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	212.5-211.5
Spot 231.6		Dec	215.5-213.5
Mar	224.0-223.0	Mar	219.5-218.5
May	225.0-222.0	May	224.0-223.0
Aug	220.0-219.4	Volume	7705

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 29

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	49.88	75.39	90.01
(+/-)	+2.19	+5.20	+1.26
Eng/Wales	49.88	74.98	90.01
(+/-)	+2.19	+4.76	+1.72
%	+46.0	+7.0	-5.0
Scotland	unq	79.31	90.05
(+/-)		+9.61	+2.46
%		+21.0	-18.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm) — CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	10.80	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Mar)	11.10	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Apr)	11.20	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	12.50	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	12.55	-0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT) — Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	115 (+3)	119 (+4)
Gasoil EEC	101 (n/c)	103 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	66 (n/c)	69 (-1)
Naphtha	94 (+4)	97 (+4)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd) — GAS OIL

Feb	98.25-98.50	May	102.50-102.75
Mar	99.50-99.75	Jun	104.75-105.00
Apr	100.50-100.75		Vol 22107

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	11.10-11.12	Jun	11.48 BID
Apr	11.18-11.21	Jul	11.62 BID
May	11.34 BID		Vol 41063

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	75.80	Mar	78.85
May	76.90	May	79.85
Jul	78.90	Sep	77.25
Sep	77.75	Nov	79.25
Nov	79.50	Jan	81.25
Volume 314		Volume 5	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	250.00
Apr	318.00	318.00
May	unq	328.00
		Volume 29

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Feb 48.00-48.50

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 99	805	785	795
Mar 99	825	830	820
Apr 99	897	895	897
Jul 99	795	795	795

Vol 40 lots. Open interest 2370. Index 816 -11

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1408.0-1408.5	1435.0-1435.5	1467525
Lead ($/tonne)	484.50-485.00	489.00-489.50	163525
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	964.00-964.50	981.00-982.00	534350
Tin ($/tonne)	5170.0-5180.0	5150.0-5160.0	17435
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1194.5-1195.0	1204.0-1205.0	1665225
Nickel ($/tonne)	4210.0-4215.0	4260.0-4265.0	82782

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
ASDA	160	17	24	28½	10½	16	20
(*164)	180	9	16	20	22½	27½	31
Abbey Nat	1200	97½	125½	154½	93	109½	132
(*1209½)	1250	75	102	128½	122	135½	155

[illegible]

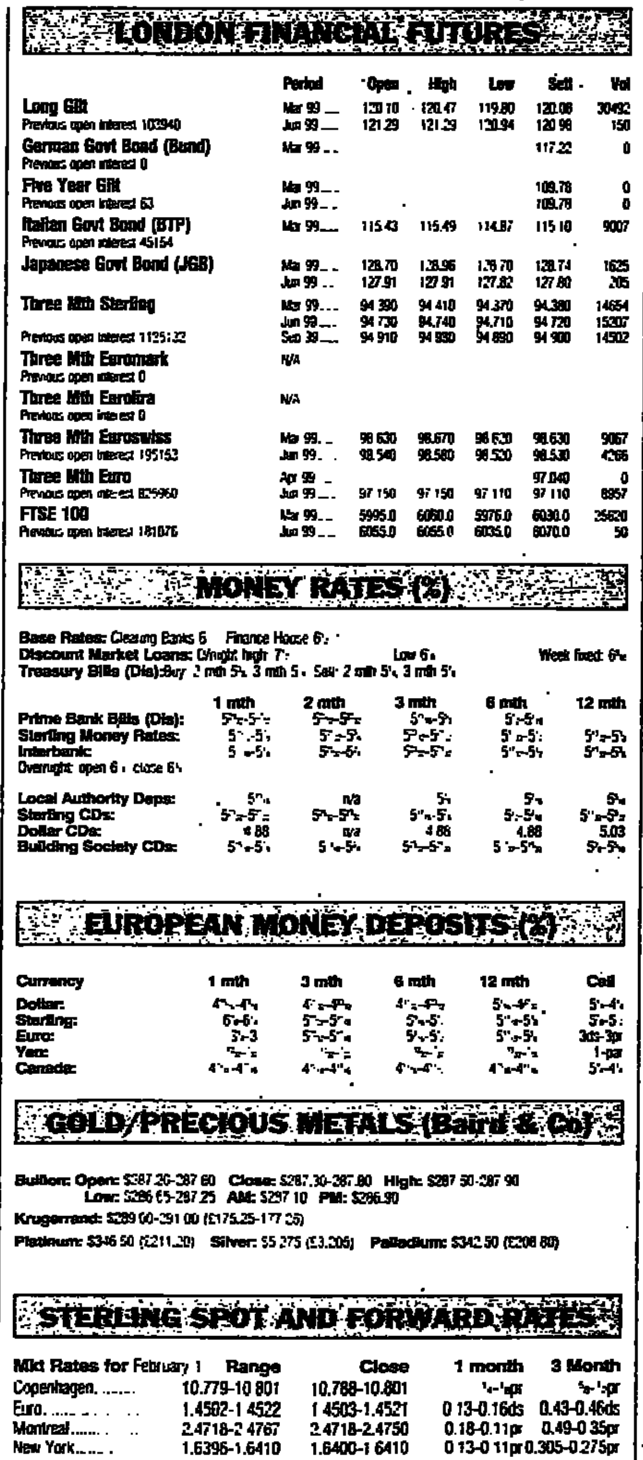
	Series	Calls			Puts		
Thames W	1050	53	—	—	53½	—	—
(*1050½)	1114	31	—	—	87	—	—
Vodafone	1150	136	189	231	83½	116½	152
(*1167)	1200	112	166	209	108	142	178½
Woolwich	300	35½	42	54	15½	15½	28½
(*325)	330	18½	27	40½	30	30	43½

[illegible]

	Series	Calls			Puts		
R-Royce	260	11	27	36½	8	21	29
(*264)	280	3	18½	27½	20	32½	39½
Tesco	183	13	—	—	3½	—	—
(*193)	200	4½	13½	20½	12	22½	26½
Utd Bisc	171	18½	—	—	1½	—	—
(*187½)	193	5½	—	—	10½	—	—

[illegible]

February 1 Total: 36700 Calls: 17657 Puts: 19043. FTSE Index (*6012*) February 1 Total: 2864 Calls: 1339 Puts: 1325. *Underlying security price



LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt (Previous open interest 103940)	Mar 99	120.10	120.47	119.80	120.08	30492
	Jun 99	121.29	121.29	120.94	120.98	150
German Govt Bond (Bund) (Previous open interest 0)	Mar 99				117.22	0
Five Year Gilt (Previous open interest 63)	Mar 99				109.78	0
	Jun 99				109.78	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 99	115.43	115.49	114.87	115.10	9007
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 99	128.70	128.96	128.70	128.74	1625
	Jun 99	127.91	127.91	127.82	127.80	205
Three Mth Sterling	Mar 99	94.390	94.410	94.370	94.380	14654
	Jun 99	94.730	94.740	94.710	94.720	15207
	Sep 99	94.910	94.930	94.890	94.900	14502
Three Mth Euromark	N/A					
Three Mth Eurolira	N/A					
Three Mth Euroswiss	Mar 99	98.630	98.670	98.630	98.630	9067
	Jun 99	98.540	98.580	98.520	98.530	4266
Three Mth Euro	Apr 99				97.040	0
	Jun 99	97.150	97.150	97.110	97.110	6957
FTSE 100	Mar 99	5995.0	6060.0	5976.0	6030.0	25620
	Jun 99	6055.0	6055.0	6035.0	6070.0	50

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance House 6½
Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 7½ Low 6¼ Week fixed 6⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy 2 mth 5[illegible], 3 mth 5[illegible]; Sell: 2 mth 5[illegible], 3 mth 5[illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 6 close 6					
Local Authority Deps	[illegible]	n/a	5[illegible]	5[illegible]	5[illegible]
Sterling CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs	4.88	n/a	4.88	4.88	5.03
Building Society CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth	Call
Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3ds-3pr
Yen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par
Canada	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

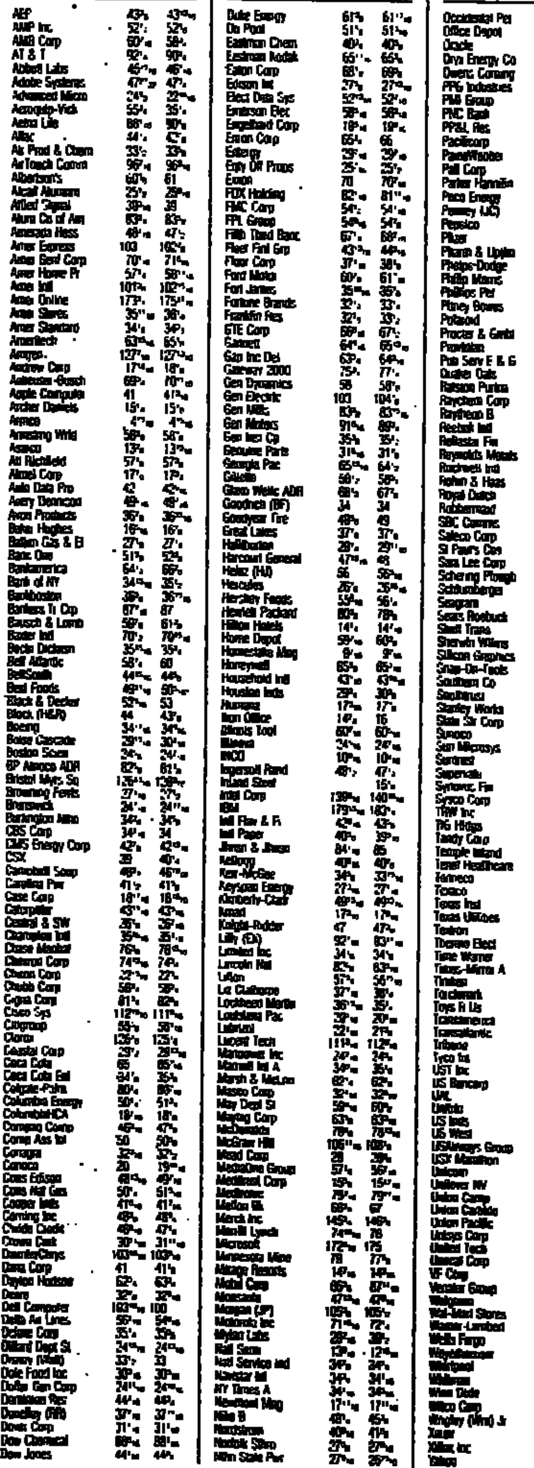
Bullion: Open: $287.30-287.80 High: $287.50-287.90 Low: $286.[illegible] AM: $287.10 PM: $286.90
Krugerrand: $289.00-291.00 (£175.25-177.25)
Platinum: $346.50 (£211.20) Silver: $5.275 (£3.205) Palladium: $342.50 (£208.80)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mid Rates for February 1

	Range	Close	1 month	3 Month
Copenhagen	10.779-10.801	10.788-10.801	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Euro	1.4502-1.4522	1.4503-1.4521	0.13-0.16ds	0.43-0.46ds
Montreal	2.4718-2.4767	2.4718-2.4750	0.18-0.11pr	0.49-0.35pr
New York	1.6396-1.6410	1.6400-1.6410	0.13-0.11pr	0.305-0.275pr
Oslo	12.380-12.397	12.380-12.396	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Stockholm	12.819-12.864	12.819-12.844	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	188.73-189.15	188.73-188.94	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.3324-2.3366	2.3336-2.3366	[illegible]pr	2[illegible]pr

Source: Enkel. Premium = pr Discount = ds



DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5748-1.5760
Canada	1.5083-1.5093
Denmark	6.5759-6.5799
Euro	1.1299-1.1303
Hong Kong	7.7485-7.7495
Japan	115.32-115.36
Malaysia	3.7900-3.8000
Norway	7.5480-7.5580
Singapore	1.6902-1.6912
Sweden	7.8260-7.8360
Switzerland	1.4200-1.4213

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6385-1.6407
Australia dollar	2.5825-2.5853
Bahrain dinar	0.6135-0.6277
Brazil real*	1.9765-1.9790
Cyprus pound	0.8300-0.8488
Euro	1.4570-1.4582
Finland markka	8.5375-8.6769
Greece drachma	459.25-469.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.7071-12.7118
India rupee	69.17-70.77
Indonesia rupiah	14436.0-15036.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4925-0.5039
Malaysia ringgit	6.2152-6.2335
New Zealand dollar	3.0193-3.0268
Pakistan rupee	80.3500 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9225-6.0599
Singapore dollar	2.7711-2.7744
S Africa rand (com)	9.8660-10.0848
U A E dirham	5.9750-6.1136

Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

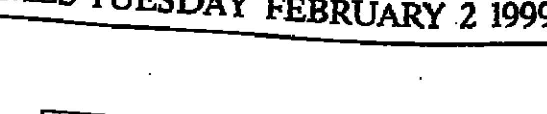
FTSE VOLUMES

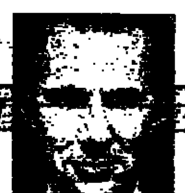
3i	1,681	Legal & Gn	2,430
ASDA Gp	16,343	Lloyds TSB	10,398
Abbey Ntl	1,970	LucasVarity	17,726
Allnce & Leic	3,146	Marks Spr	9,611
Allied Dom	7,219	Nat Grid	5,996
Allied Zrch	7,228	Nat Power	4,850
Amvescap	3,276	NatWst Bk	3,549
AB Foods	1,280	Norwich Un	2,146
Bk of Scot	3,385	Orange	1,157
BAA	6,767	P & O	2,511
Barclays	5,816	Pearson	1,299
Bass	1,765	PowerGen	2,259
BG	4,708	Prudential	3,925
BIbton	2,102	Railtrack	1,499
BOC	1,216	Reckitt Col	1,653
Boots	3,117	Reed Intl	2,884
BP Amoco	15,545	Rentokil	4,781
BAe	9,075	Reuters	12,357
BA	6,321	Rio Tinto	3,360
Brt Am Tob	4,578	Rolls Royce	12,433
Brit Energy	3,075	Ryl & Sun	12,086
BSkyB	2,779	Ryl Bk Scot	2,131
BT	11,647	Safeway	3,363
BTR	18,086	Sainsbury	3,042
CGU	2,551	Schroders	200
COLT Telecom	1,462	Scot & New	1,447
Cable Wire	4,873	Scot Sthn Engy	4,989
Cadbury	2,832	Scot Power	2,092
Carlton Cms	2,501	Securicor	5,615
Centrica	8,813	Svrn Trent	241
Compass Gp	1,449	Shell Trans	24,416
Diageo	5,703	Siebe	34,733
Dixons Grp	4,804	Smiths Ind	976
EMI	3,152	SmKl Bch	9,414
Gallaher	2,498	Stagecoach	1,857
Gen Elec	6,645	Std Chartd	3,548
GKN	1,389	Sun Life	2,259
Glaxo Well	5,940	TeleWest	5,017
Granada	4,138	Tesco	26,948
GUS	4,489	Thames W	456
GRE	13,716	Tomkins	9,666
Hanson	2,766	Unilever	36,299
ICI	2,809	Utd News	2,333
Imperial Tob	2,657	Utd Utilities	4,387
HSBC	2,797	Vodafone	11,203
Halifax	5,189	WPP	4,191
Hays	765	Whitbread	1,548
Kingfisher	3,812	Williams	8,569
Ladbroke	3,163	Woolwich	1,806
Land Secs	3,546	Zeneca	3,099

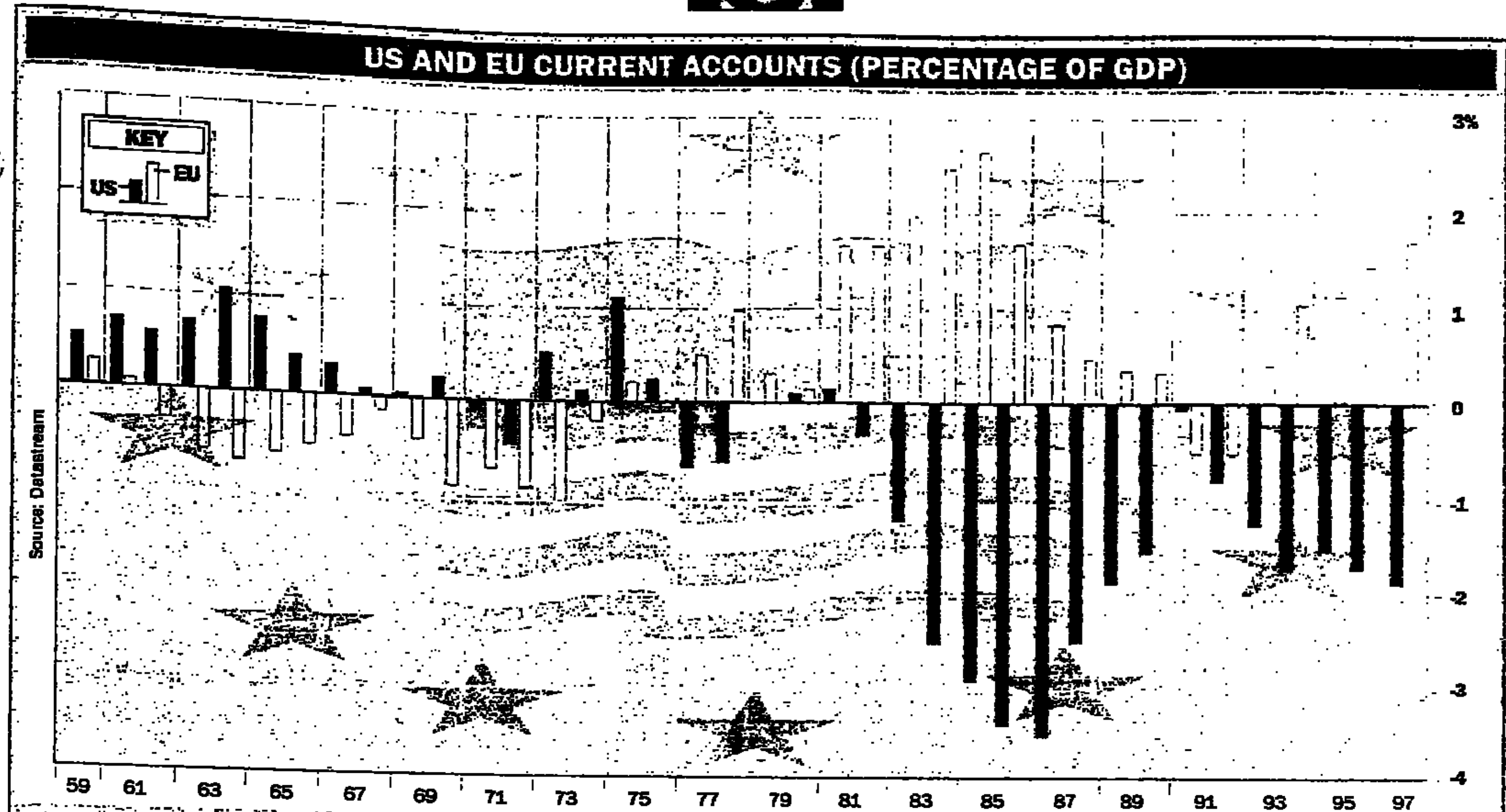
WALL STREET

	Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close		Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close		Feb 1 midday	Jan 29 close
AEP	[illegible]	[illegible]	Duke Energy	[illegible]	[illegible]	Occidental Pet	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMP Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Du Pont	[illegible]	[illegible]	Office Depot	36	[illegible]
AMR Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Eastman Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Oracle	[illegible]	[illegible]
AT & T	[illegible]	[illegible]	Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	[illegible]	Oryx Energy Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Abbott Labs	[illegible]	[illegible]	Eaton Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Owens Corning	35	[illegible]
Adobe Systems	[illegible]	[illegible]	Edison Int	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Advanced Micro	[illegible]	[illegible]	Elect Data Sys	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Aeroquip-Vick	[illegible]	[illegible]	Emerson Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Aetna Life	[illegible]	[illegible]	Engelhard Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Aflac	[illegible]	[illegible]	Enron Corp	[illegible]	66			
Air Prod & Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Entergy	[illegible]	[illegible]			
AirTouch Comm	[illegible]	[illegible]	Eqty Off Props	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Albertson's	[illegible]	61	Exxon	70	[illegible]			
Alcan Alumnm	[illegible]	[illegible]	FDX Holding	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Allied Signal	[illegible]	39	FMC Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Alum Co of Am	[illegible]	[illegible]	FPL Group	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fifth Third Banc	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Express	103	[illegible]	Fleet Finl Grp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Genl Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fluor Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Home Pr	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ford Motor	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fort James	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Online	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fortune Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Franklin Res	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amer Standard	[illegible]	[illegible]	GTE Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Ameritech	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gannett	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Amgen	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gap Inc Del	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Andrew Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gateway 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Anheuser-Busch	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Dynamics	58	[illegible]			
Apple Computer	41	[illegible]	Gen Electric	103	[illegible]			
Archer Daniels	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Armco	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Armstrong Wrld	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Inst Cp	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Asarco	[illegible]	[illegible]	Genuine Parts	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Atl Richfield	[illegible]	[illegible]	Georgia Pac	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Atmel Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Auto Data Pro	42	[illegible]	Glaxo Wellc ADR	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Avery Dennison	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodrich (BF)	34	34			
Avon Products	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodyear Tire	[illegible]	49			
Baker Hughes	[illegible]	[illegible]	Great Lakes	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Baltim Gas & El	[illegible]	[illegible]	Halliburton	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Banc One	[illegible]	[illegible]	Harcourt General	[illegible]	48			
Bankamerica	[illegible]	[illegible]	Heinz (HJ)	56	[illegible]			
Bank of NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Hercules	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Bankboston	[illegible]	[illegible]	Hershey Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Bankers Tr Cp	[illegible]	87	Hewlett Packard	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Bausch & Lomb	[illegible]	[illegible]	Hilton Hotels	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Baxter Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]	Home Depot	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Becton Dickson	[illegible]	[illegible]	Homestake Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Bell Atlantic	[illegible]	60	Honeywell	[illegible]	[illegible]			
BellSouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	Household Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Best Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]	Houston Inds	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Black & Decker	[illegible]	53	Humana	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Block (H&R)	44	[illegible]	Ikon Office	[illegible]	16			
Boeing	[illegible]	[illegible]	Illinois Tool	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Boise Cascade	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]			

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ANATOLE KALETSKY



Europe must play its part in stimulating global demand

The US trade deficit means that the rest of the world has an equal surplus. The EU and Japan should take measures of their own to reduce the imbalance

When the world's economic leaders gathered this weekend for their annual jamboree in Davos, two big questions were on everybody's mind. On the surface, much of the discussion was about developing countries and financial markets. Could anything be done to prevent, or at least to control, the wild fluctuations of financial markets and thereby to minimise the damage done by global finance to the real economy of production, investment and employment, especially in the developing world? In reality, however, the greater concern, if only for selfish reasons, was about the outlook for the industrialised world. Would 1999 be a year of recovery from last summer's financial shocks or would the growing imbalances in US trade soon threaten even greater upheavals — perhaps even every policymaker's worst nightmare, a serious protectionist balcklash in America as the campaigning for next year's presidential election moves into gear?

Both of these issues were addressed in the major economic events that set the agenda for all the discussions at Davos — the numerous panel discussions between finance ministers and central bank governors from America, Britain and Europe and the three setpiece speeches by Robert Rubin, the US Treasury Secretary, by Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General and by Al Gore, the US Vice-President.

Cutting through the high-flown rhetoric, the consensus answer on what could be done about the swings of financial markets was "not very much". Mr Rubin laid down a marker against any ambitious plans for redesigning the global financial architecture, arguing that many of the radical measures for global regulation proposed in the aftermath of last year's Russian panic would do more harm than good. Since I broadly agree with this view, I do not have much to add on development and financial markets. By contrast, on the question about America's economic imbalances and the broader international outlook, I found the conventional wisdom at Davos seriously flawed.

Most policymakers in Europe and Japan think that the root causes of the US trade imbalance lie in the anti-social behaviour of American people. Americans spend too much money, they don't try hard enough to export, they speculate in the stock market. But taking a closer look at world economic conditions, these views seem completely back to front. The main problems in the world economy are not caused by imbalances in America but in Europe and Japan.

The US trade deficit cannot be blamed on America's lack of competitiveness, since US exports have grown faster than Germany's and much faster than Japan's in 11 out of the past 13 years.

Neither is an overvalued dollar the problem, since US production costs are roughly 40 per cent lower than in Germany and 15 per cent lower than in Japan and France. The real cause of the US trade deficit lies in the divergence in macroeconomic performance — America is enjoying its fifth consecutive year of rapid growth and full employment, while European employment is still at depression levels and Japan is suffering a generalised economic collapse.

The US trade deficit is, by definition, matched by an equal trade surplus in the rest of the world.

Instead of asking what can be done to reduce the US deficit, therefore, the world should be asking what can be done to reduce the surpluses of Europe and Japan. In the past, Japan's trade imbalances have received a lot of attention, but to judge by discussions in Davos, attention may soon switch to Europe's role in aggravating the global imbalance of trade — and not before time.

One reason why attention is moving to Europe is simply pragmatic. Japan has shown itself incapable of running a rational economic policy and its domestic politics is completely paralysed. The world will simply have to put up with further vast Japanese trade surpluses and Japan will simply have to suffer the gradual destruction of its industries by the strong yen. Europe, by contrast, is still capable of changing its domestic policies and is under great domestic political pressure to stimulate growth and reduce unemployment. Politically, therefore, a stronger domestic economy is not a lost cause in Europe as it is in Japan.

The key question for the world economy in 1999 is how Europe's surpluses will be reduced. There are essentially two ways this could happen. The first would be extremely damaging to the world economy — especially to Europe. The second would be very benign.

The first possibility would be a sharp depreciation of the dollar against the euro. To have much effect on the trade imbalances, the dollar's depreciation would have to be quite severe, since the initial effect of a weak dollar would be to boost US employment and investment (and therefore America's appetite for imports). But a sharp depreciation of the dollar against the euro would crush employment and investment in Europe. The effect, especially in Germany, where export industries compete most directly with American producers, would be to shatter consumer and business confidence and to plunge the economy back into recession. This recession would, in turn, reduce Europe's demand for imports and increase the trade surplus, giving the euro a further push up. The result could be a vicious circle of trade surpluses and currency appreciation similar to the one that has helped to destroy the Japanese economy since 1994.

The US would not dream of acting to stabilise the dollar by raising interest rates. Mr Rubin went out of his way to emphasise at Davos that talk about America joining a system of managed exchange rates or target zones was nothing but hot air. The Americans believe, quite simply, that they should run monetary policy to maximise the non-inflationary growth of the US economy. Whether that will mean a strong dollar, a weak dollar or a steady dollar will depend on the policies pursued in Japan and Europe. The US authorities recongise their international responsibilities towards developing ocuntries and world financial markets. But Europe and Japan are reckoned to be strong enough to be able to deal with their own problems — and, if necessary, to suffer the consequences of their own economic mistakes.

This leaves a third way of narrowing the US deficit that would be more effective and benign: a powerful expansion of domestic demand in Europe, followed in 2000 by stimulative measures in Japan and the rest of Asia. If Europe were prepared to take its share of responsibility for sustaining global demand growth, not only only would this help to reduce the US trade imbalance, it would also allow the Fed to tighten monetary policy and perhaps create the conditions for an orderly correction of the equity bull market and for a gradual increase in the US savings rate.

Obviously rebalancing the world economy through demand growth in Europe would be beneficial for all. But the mere fact that something is desirable does not make it likely to happen. Sooner or later the European Central Bank will be forced to adopt a policy of aggressively expanding domestic demand, simply because the alternative for restoring balance to the world economy — a sharp depreciation of the dollar — would be so damaging to Europe. But will the ECB's Damascene conversion to expansionary Keynesian policies be left too late? That is to my mind the biggest danger to the global economic outlook for 1999.

For now, the instinct of the ECB is to follow the Bundesbank "steady hand" tradition, which means doing too little, too late. Anyone who doubts this should have observed the complacency of the European officials represented at Davos. The one striking exception was Heiner Flassbeck, Germany's new Keynesian Finance Secretary, who was largely responsible for last year's successful campaign by the German Finance Ministry to squeeze an interest rate reduction out of the ECB. I had a chance to observe the body language of Wim Duisenberg, the ECB President, when he happened to be seated next to Herr Flassbeck at one of the Davos lunches. As far as I could see, the two men did not say a word to each other or even exchange a glance. Mr Duisenberg still seems deeply offended by the German Government's demand for low interest rates and a softer euro last year. It will not be easy for Mr Duisenberg to swallow his pride and accept that the German demands were right. In the end, though, reason will surely prevail over personal pique.

Carmaker takes a fashionable route to selling vehicles


JASON NISSE

MARKET LEADER

What is happening to car marketing?

A few years ago you knew where you were with the motor trade. The adverts inevitably showed some hotshot bloke zooming down an empty road — usually in the north of Scotland or Cumbria — either on his own or with an attractive and attentive female by his side. There was a voiceover about how many cylinders the car had in its camshaft.

At the car showroom, some aggressive middle manager would pepper you with questions about what extras you needed, inevitably bumping up the original price by 20 per cent or so. You drove the car out of the showroom and its value dropped by a couple of thousand pounds before you were at the end of the street.

But it is all evolving rather quickly. In the last year we've seen adverts for Audi attacking golf clubs — a dangerous ploy not only because lots of golfers drive Audis but also because its sister company, Volkswagen, makes the Golf — as well as adverts for the aforementioned Golf featuring a Tai Chi class and Rover running a design campaign for its Minis asking aspiring artists and celebrities, such as Kate Moss, to come up with a new colour scheme.

To cap it all we have had a strange series of adverts for the Rover 400 — a reps car to match the Ford Mondeo — which have shown girls with pearl ear-rings in their belly buttons and tattoos on their arms up to all sorts of trendy activities. This series has recently been tinkered with, changing the soundtrack to feature even more fashionable songs by The Buzzcocks and Elvis Presley. How this appeals to the fleet car buyer, I do not know.

Today this process moves on a step when Honda launches its new car — the HR-V — at the London Men's Fashion Week. This is a four-wheel drive coupé which is meant to be a city car (a more oxymoronic concept would be hard to find, even in the motor industry, but I suppose it is aimed at those irritating people who drive Cherokee Jeeps in Hampstead).

Honda is the lead sponsor for Fashion Week, which is largely based at the Royal Horticultural Hall, just behind Victoria Station and features such famous designers as Paul Smith, Patrick Cox, John Rocha and Red or Dead. The HR-Vs are to be used to ferry designers, buyers and press to the shows in locations away from the Horticultural halls.

The idea is to tag onto one of the fastest-growing areas of the retail trade — men's fashion, which is worth £3 billion a year and is estimated by the industry to be growing at 25 per cent a year. Honda reckons that the guys who buy £400 suits and £20 on sensitive shaving foam will be the much sought after "early adopters" who will start the trend for buying 4x4 city coupés.

In addition, Honda is using this sponsorship as a peg for the launch of the car to dealers. According to Martin Saunders, marketing director of Honda UK, the Japanese carmaker wants the dealers to have a radical rethink about who they are selling to and how they are selling the car. "We have different types of customers these days," he says. "More people are choosing cars for themselves; the company car is becoming less prevalent. We have to be different in the types of cars we offer and have to be different in the way we approach the marketplace."

The dealer launch is actually to take place at the Sports Café in London's Haymarket, not because Honda also wants to try to attack the lad's market at the same time, but because it is one of the few venues that has enough TV screens to simultaneously show all the different marketing videos Honda has dreamt up. Saunders says he wants to persuade dealers to rethink their "in showroom" marketing to take account of the different approach Honda is taking to the HR-V.

Of course there is no certainty that the car will catch the imagination of trendy early adopters, who are more likely to take taxis or drive old MGBs. However Saunders thinks Honda has a much better chance if it starts being trendy when the car is launched, rather than aspire to trendiness with a car that is clearly not fashionable, like the Rover 400.

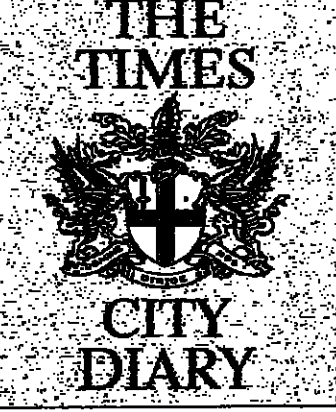
□ HERE'S an idea. Imagine if Birmingham was renamed Cadburyville or Manchester was called Boddingtons or Newcastle replaced "upon Tyne" with Brown Ale. Far fetched? Well not if you come from the town of Granville in North Dakota which has been renamed McGillicuddy City in honour of a minty tasting alcoholic beverage called Dr McGillicuddy's Schnapps.

The name change is the result of a competition held by Sazerac, the New Orleans-based company that distributes Dr McGillicuddy's. A couple of years ago Sazerac's — now, alas, late — president Peter Bordeaux "just sort of blurted out" the idea of finding a town that was willing to be renamed McKillicuddy as a promotional ploy. Sazerac ran a competition offering $100,000 (£60,000) to any place that would agree to giving up its identity.

The company received six offers, though one was a "new community" in California. Having sized up all the options, it chose Granville, a town of 270 inhabitants named after Granville Dodge, a railroad engineer. The actual cost to Sazerac was about $120,000, with administration expenses, but the company and town are pleased about the amount of publicity the change has generated. There is only one problem. McGillicuddy City only has two bars, and neither serve Dr McGillicuddy's Schnapps.

jason.nisse@the-times.co.uk


Sponsorship drive: Honda will use fashion to launch its HR-V



Electoral pact

PLANS to reform the electoral system in the City by giving votes to businesses there could be doomed. The House of Commons gives the City of London (Ward Elections) Bill a second hearing today, and I hear at least one Labour MP will stand up and oppose it.

This would prevent the Bill from going to the committee stage, and if opposition continues until the summer recess, it will fall. The franchise reform proposed by the Corporation of London has always worried some Labour Party members. The current "rotten boroughs" system is manifestly unfair, but the plans merely hand power over to faceless corporations or their agents, goes the argument, and reduce the percentage of the vote held by residents.

The City branch of the Labour Party has put in a petition opposing the Bill, as has long-time critic Malcolm Matson. Chris Haines, chair of the branch, says he has found several local MPs who have promised to oppose the legislation. "If somebody blocks it now, then they will continue to do so."



"Takeover ... hostile bid ... market share"

A CITY expert on litigation and employment law rings to point out that Glenn Hoddle, however silly his comments were, is probably unsackable, at least not without a large payment for unfair dismissal.

Lawyers are increasingly basing such cases on the European Convention on Human Rights. Article 9 of this explicitly permits freedom of thought, conscience — and religion.

French farce

THIS happens so often that one should really not be surprised. Last month the French made a hostile offer for English China Clays and accused ECC management of significant strategic errors and missed opportunities. This side of the Channel there was much hand-wringing about prospects for Cornish jobs if the French got their way.

Yesterday enough cash hit the table for an agreed deal. So ECC reassured us that the French would "protect and recognise any employee agreements that are in place," a legal requirement, but never mind.

And the bidder said it would "welcome ECC management in the enlarged group". Patrick Kron, chief executive, insisted: "We have not criticised ECC management."

Grey area

I HEAR that City Index, the spread betting operation that will give you odds on even the most arcane financial instruments, has decided to duck out of making a "grey market" in the William Hill flotation.

Any float of this size, and with such a high public profile, would have the firm offering punters the chance to bet on how the shares perform once dealing starts. This was at first the plan, but wiser counsel prevailed.

William Hill is a clear rival, and a grey market could bring accusations of favouritism. "We wouldn't want to leave ourselves open to potential ridicule," admits Neil Murphy there.

SOME very odd results from a quarterly survey by AQ Newsletter, which tracks how closely profit forecasts from analysts match the actual results. Winner is Credit Lyonnais, and small houses such as Charterhouse Tilney and Albert E Sharp easily outperform the likes of BT Alex Brown, Goldman Sachs and CSFB.

But the survey has found a widespread deterioration in the accuracy of analysts as economic conditions have become more volatile. Worrying, with the seemingly unstoppable rise of the tracker funds.

Swiss role

EVEN Nobel Prize winners have difficulty with Switzerland's notorious immigration laws. Amartya Sen, the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and last year's Economics laureate, was invited to the World Economic Forum in Davos as a much-honoured speaker. Unfortunately, no one told him that as an Indian citizen he needed a visa.

He found himself at Zurich airport for an hour and a half being grilled by immigration officers. At one point one Swiss officer, with all the charm the breed is known for, said: "You ought to be able to answer these questions. You're clever enough to have won a Nobel Prize."

Professor Sen told this story at a Davos luncheon. Also there was Ruth Dreifuss, Switzerland's first woman President. She at least had the decency to look embarrassed.

MARTIN WALLER
city.diary@the-times.co.uk


Sen: encountered visa difficulties when he arrived at Zurich airport

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 556 8800				
Bridge Income #	414.56	441.01	- 5.50	4.51
Esu Growth	142.68	151.79		0.52
Inc & Growth	103.30	109.89r	+ 1.45	2.96

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
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European Growth	177.11	188.41	+ 3.61	0.39

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Dealing: 0870 6066408				
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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Int Bond	66.52	69.86	0.01	2.81
Intl Equity Growth	117.45	124.60	+ 1.89	0.30
N Amer Growth	224.45	237.97	- 2.39	0.21
Special Sits Growth	39.67	42.20	+ 0.48	1.15
UK Growth	652.17	695.79	+ 8.67	1.53
-do- Accum	937.91	997.77	+ 12.46	1.53

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Equities' firm start to week

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
648	385	[illegible]	476	+ 7	5.3	12.5
412½	285	[illegible]	395½		6.5	12.8
47½	7	[illegible]	14	- ½		
795	432	[illegible]	703	+ 31	2.8	21.3
900	642½	[illegible]	645	- 17½	2.8	17.5
325	225	Highland Dist	252½		4.8	11.5
244	115	[illegible]	242		6.7	8.2
59½	18½	[illegible]	28	- ½		
2021½	725	SA Breweries	990½	+ 34½	3.7	14.9

BANKS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1618½	892½	ABN-AMRO	1209½	+ 28½	3.3	14.6
1380	860	Abbey Natl	1205	+ 11	3.3	17.8
1032	585	Alliance & Leic	778	+ 23	3.6	14.7
1336	887½	Allied Irish	1189½	+ 7	1.6	33.2
458½	293½	Aus New Z	400½	+ 6	5.0	...
6075	3237½	Bank America	4080½	+ 112½		
827	431	Bank Scotland	781½	+ 15	1.7	19.5
1996	827	Barclays	1391	+ 31	3.5	12.8
1487½	882½	Bk of Ireland	[illegible]			

[illegible]

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

[illegible]

BUILDING MATERIALS

[illegible]

CHEMICALS

[illegible]

CONSTRUCTION

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTORS

[illegible]

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

[illegible]

ELECTRICITY

[illegible]

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

[illegible]

ENGINEERING

[illegible]

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

[illegible]

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

[illegible]

HEALTHCARE

[illegible]

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

LEISURE & HOTELS

[illegible]

MINING

[illegible]

OIL & GAS

[illegible]

OTHER FINANCIAL

[illegible]

MEDIA

[illegible]

PHARMACEUTICALS

[illegible]

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

[illegible]

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

[illegible]

LONGS (over 15 years)

[illegible]

UNDATED

[illegible]

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 5% 3%

[illegible]

PRINTING & PAPER

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RETAILERS, FOOD

[illegible]

RETAILERS, GENERAL

[illegible]

SUPPORT SERVICES

[illegible]

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

[illegible]

TRANSPORT

[illegible]

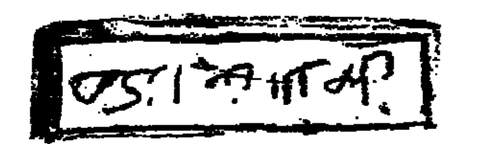
WATER

[illegible]

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

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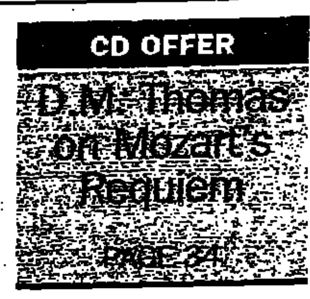
Source: FT Information [illegible]



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VISUAL ART
All change for the Tate at Millbank
PAGE 33

THE TIMES
ARTS





A cult hero's royal ascent

POP
Bonnie "Prince" Billy
Whelan's, Dublin

Bonnie "Prince" Billy is the latest pseudonym employed by Louisville, Kentucky's Will Oldham, the cult figure behind the Palace. Whether appearing under the names Palace Brothers, Palace Songs, Palace Music or just plain old Palace, Oldham has been responsible for some of the most distinctive and emotionally charged music of the 1990s. Moving fluidly between folk, country, gospel and blues, it defies any attempt at easy categorisation. Oldham's lyrics generally use a heightened poetic language, often reminiscent of the Psalms, and his specialist subjects appear to be sex, death and horses. And why not?

Oldham has built up a modest but steadfastly loyal following with each release, without ever threatening to break through to the mainstream — the shaky voice, lo-fi production and penchant for writing songs about horses put paid to that. But then world domination has never been part of his agenda. If anything, Oldham's relative lack of ambition serves him and his fans well: he gets to play idyllic little venues such as Whelan's and we get to see the whites of his eyes, when they are not shut tight with concentration.

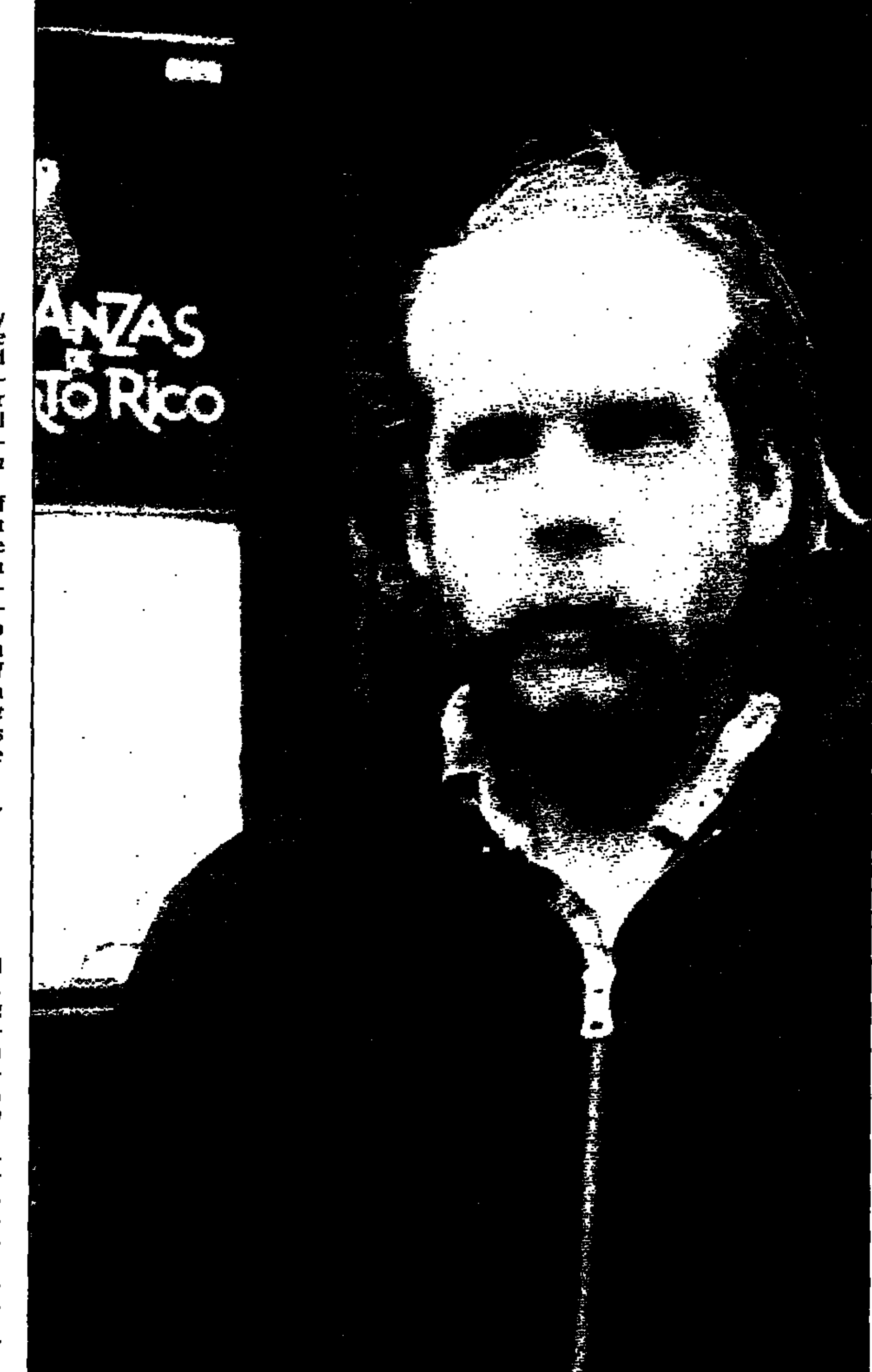
Admittedly, some of Whelan's traditional ambience was lost with the removal of the tables and chairs normally stationed in front of the stage (the sure sign of a sell-out show) but this did not stop the Prince effecting an almost Rasputin-like hold over the audience with his opening brace of songs.

You will do well to hear a more poignant, heartfelt love song this year than *I See a Darkness*, the title track of the new album, and better still to hear it sung as sensitively as this, Oldham's impossibly fragile voice a-quiver with emotion. The complex allegorical ballad, *Black*, followed on its heels, showcasing Oldham the master craftsman.

Soon he was joined by a three-piece band that fleshed out the songs in a pleasingly unshowy fashion, adding the odd harmony vocal here and there (*A Minor Place*, for example) and the odd lead guitar break. (The wah-wah pedal even came out for the exquisitely titled *Today I Was an Evil One*.)

For a period in the middle of the set, one sensed a slight slackening of purpose where the performance became a mite too casual. But the lascivious crowd-pleaser, *The Mountain*, brought things back to the boil. During the encore a solo rendition of the quirky *I Am a Cinematographer* and a muscular reading of *O Let It Be* left a strong afterglow as the faithful filed out into the dank Dublin night.

NICK KELLY


High drama in a low key from Will Oldham — Bonnie "Prince" Billy for his latest tour

Quick, claim her for ourselves

Heather Nova
University of Surrey, Guildford

After several years in which Americans such as Sheryl Crow and Alanis Morissette have dominated the female singer-songwriter field, we are now witnessing the British babe wave. This year should see Beth Orton become an international star, establish Eliza Carthy not just as a folk traditionalist but a bold and original writer of her own compositions, and launch the career of Liz Horsman, an Ipswich-born version of Natalie Imbruglia with more talent and better songs.

Where this geographical shift leaves Heather Nova seems to be causing some confusion. Both *The Guardian* and *The Independent* called her a "UK songstress", while *Q* magazine described her as an "angsty American". In fact, she is neither. She comes from Bermuda, which she calls the least rock'n'roll place in the world. But the tiny Atlantic island must have got something right. Nova does all the things female singer-songwriters are meant to do as well as the best of them, but she also rocks with a rare passion.

She gave notice of her intent by kicking off with *I'm the Girl*, which namechecked such prototype feminist icons as Medusa and Joan of Arc. Half of her band is female, too, with Nadia Landman's cello adding intriguing textures to the guitar, drums and bass line-up.

But there is a lot more to Nova than merely a more grown-up version of girl power. *London Rain* was blessed with a massive, jangling pop hook and the joyous line "When somebody needs you, well there's no drug like that". *Blood of Me* had a more sinister edge, a tale of mistrust and betrayal which showcased Nova's high and pure but emotive voice. *Island* was similarly serious — a song about domestic abuse — but then, after almost an hour, she took the mood down with an acoustic slot featuring just her guitar and Landman's evocative cello in which the affecting love song *Doubled Up* was outstanding.

Back with the band she kept the best almost until last with the new single *Heart and Shoulder*, which has one of those insidious radio-friendly melodies which buries itself deep inside your brain. It deserves to be a huge hit.

You can use other female singer-songwriters as reference points but, when reviewing last year's splendid *Siren* album, every critic came up with a different set of names. Heather Nova, though, is entirely her own woman.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Easy does it

JAZZ
Ken Peplowski
Pizza Express, W19

INTRODUCED as "the happiest man in jazz", the Ohio-born reedsman Ken Peplowski lived up to his billing. Counting off an easygoing, unruffled tempo for his opener, Kay Swift's *Can't We Be Friends*, he immediately demonstrated why such adjectives as "imperturbable" and "easygoing" are applied to his playing. Possessed of a light, unforced tenor tone, he is able to imbue everything he plays with the infectious buoyancy characteristic of the swing masters he so clearly admires.

Backed by a local rhythm section — guitarist Dave Cliff, bassist Malcolm Creese, drummer Martin Drew — Peplowski moved up a gear for a warm warble through *I Hear a Rhapsody*, then concluded the set's tenor section with a samba, a gently benevolent rhythm perfectly suited to his pleasantly breathy, tranquil approach.

If so much emphasis on good nature and general beneficence gives the impression that the band was simply coasting, however, nothing could be further from the truth. Drew, in particular, is a master at injecting zip and pep into superficially serene rhythms, not only through his whip-smart snare drum fills, but also through the subtle variations in his hi-hat sound. For Rodgers and Hart's *Blue Room*, Drew released his snare, thus imparting even more bounce into a number whose jauntiness exhibited the leader's astonishing dexterity on an instrument that appears to be undergoing something of a jazz revival.

It was, though, Peplowski's frontline interaction with two surprise guests — trombonist Mark Nightingale and fellow reedsman Tony Coe — that lingered in the memory. On the former's *Mr BG*, phrases were traded with an inventive fluency belying the informality of the occasion. *I Should Care* pitted Peplowski's sweet agility tellingly against the tarter co-clarinet sound, while their tenor/soprano visit to *Autumn Leaves* seduced Drew into some delicious phrase trading with both men.

CHRIS PARKER

Beware - speed kills

THEATRE
The White Devil
Dublin

Excellent tongue control is one of the primary requirements of Webster's *The White Devil*, at least when performed in the Grand Prix style of Loose Canon Theatre company's current revival (at Project @ the Mint). As the evening progresses, the cast seems to fire off lines at ever greater velocity, haring through speeches as though it were always the last word which counted for most.

It is not an unreasonable approach, for, when it comes creating a contemporary production style for a three-hour Jacobean tragedy, there is nothing like a dose of pace. Loose Canon and director Jason Byrne have in the past been highly successful at injecting their special brand of youthful energy into a range of Elizabethan and Jacobean drama, most recently giving *Coriolanus* a thrashing, sprinting and hugely entertaining production.

The ploy certainly keeps reins on *The White Devil's* sprawling length, but it also at times performs some undesirable distortions. Occasionally, the clearest sensation created by Ned Dennehy's sulphurous Cardinal Monticelso or David Pearse's broiling lawyer is of actors working hard.

Byrne's production is at its most effective when the cast begins to enjoy itself even as the bodies pile up onstage. Andrew Bennett, as Francisco, the vicious Duke of Florence, begins the second half a new man. Gone is the occasionally sluggish skulduggery of his first-half interpretation, replaced by a more satisfactory reading as a murderer in it for a laugh as much as for power and fortune. Phelim Drew, as Vittoria's brother Flamineo, magnetically draws the play about his character, giving the scheming wretch's asides a kind of music-hall panache.

Natalie Stringer's Vittoria, who should be at the centre of these murderous proceedings, never steers her character's admittedly contradictory violence, defiance and tenderness into a coherent whole. As a consequence, the love story between Vittoria and Michael McElhatton's snivelling Brachiano scarcely comes into focus, never mind ignites. Storytelling is clearly not Byrne's top priority, but here it is given just too little attention.

If the company's project is to succeed, their shows must be far enough from worthiness to be really enjoyable, rather than simply a relatively painless way for us to take our medicine. In the past Byrne has achieved this re-energising. *The White Devil* seems to have got the better of him.

LUKE CLANCY



At work or play we are all the same

That is what Andreas Gursky's photographs at the Serpentine Gallery say to Richard Cork



Andreas Gursky's 1997 photograph of the Chicago Board of Trade: it is a scene of apparent anarchy, yet the gesticulating traders are conforming to a behaviour pattern that is both ritualistic and highly regimented

Opposite the entrance to Andreas Gursky's spellbinding show at the Serpentine Gallery, a large photograph shows six luminous rows of trainers glowing on a wide, white wall. They almost transform the opening room into a state-of-the-art shoe shop, where designer style can be savoured in all its consumerist guile. But the phosphorescent niches containing the trainers also make them aspire to the condition of art.

The floor beneath, where their milky reflection seems to hover in a void, is as pristine as the most immaculate museum interior. And the installation looks reverential enough to be mistaken for a shrine, filled with intensely desirable objects demanding worship.

Gursky makes us acutely aware of ourselves as gazers, and of how our reactions are shaped by presentation of the spectacle we survey. He also ensures, even in images devoid of people, that the human presence is seldom forgotten. Trainers, after all, are intended for feet, but in his photograph they seem marooned inside confines denying them any possibility of escape.

Gursky's other subjects mostly elicit the same complex response. Initially, these large and sumptuously printed colour photographs generate awe. At the same time, though, we shudder at the insights Gursky offers into the late 20th-century world, where so many aspects of life are framed within structures as rigid as the trainers' shelves.

This severely regulated world becomes particularly oppressive when Gursky turns his camera towards cities. He roams freely, from his native Germany to Brasilia, Singapore and Happy Valley. But wherever he ends up, images of relentless conformity crowd into his viewfinder.

In a stunning diptych of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, both panels are dominated by stern diagonal rows of identical desks. Everyone's attention is consumed by the computer screens on the desks. Their operatives seem as indistinguishable as the machines they gaze at. In the centre of the right panel an old man stands out with his strange, priest-like demeanour. But he serves only to underline the uniformity of the figures around him, caged in a structure so spotless that it takes on a hellish aspect.

When Gursky turns his attention to the Chicago Board of Trade he appears to find a more anarchic scene. The pathways are littered with paper, apparently flung down by officials who seem to have abandoned their desks and rushed into the central arena. Here they jostle in a frenzy, dramatically at odds with their serene Hong Kong counterparts.

But the differences between East and West may well be more superficial than they appear. The waving Chicagoans are indulging in behaviour as ritualised, in its boisterous way, as the Hong Kong traders. Gursky views both from a distance, appraising their communal activities with the objectivity that his teachers at the Düsseldorf Academy, Bernd and Hilla Becher, devote to their photographs of ageing industrial structures.

Even so, Gursky is committed to scrutinising people rather than gasometers. And unlike the Bechers, with their puritanical black and white, he is not afraid of sensuous colour.

It reaches seductive heights in his images of dance clubs, where ecstatic kids brandish their limbs with frenzied delight. Raking, tinted spotlights add to the aura of orgiastic release, and Gursky seems to have hit on a subject where humanity succeeds at last in flouting the irksome codes that govern office life by day.

Even here, though, conformity prevails. For all their seeming spontaneity, the upflung arms respond to the music in precisely the same way. They resemble salutes, creating echoes of the equally fervent arms thrusting into the air at Nazi rallies. In place of a fascist demagogue, a DJ manipulates the kids' movements with cunning, practised authority.

Losing inhibitions in the psychedelic maelstrom of a club is not, therefore, as liberating as the ravers might imagine. They still fail to cast off the regimental habits governing their working weeks.

That is why Gursky remains so preoccupied with the codes of discipline in factories and offices. Some of his most disconcerting photographs define cheerless spaces where occupants seem in thrall to the compartmentalised severity of their surroundings. Even a building as glamorous as Norman Foster's icon-like Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank is seen as a sequence of cells.

Setting up his camera outside, and choosing a moment in late afternoon when the windows look brilliant against the encircling darkness, Gursky invites us to stare voyeuristically at the rooms within. Most are lit by a cold glare that relentlessly picks out the geometrical formations behind the glass façade, where the apparent freedom of open-plan space is countered all over by identical clusters of furniture.

Here the employees sit, in floor after floor, like automata crowding an updated version of Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*. By removing himself so far from the building, Gursky emphasises the repetitive tyranny of its layout. Individual expression has no place in this chilly monolith. We can see in, but the bank's show of architectural transparency provides no real access to an institution as impenetrable as a stone-clad fortress.

Part of Gursky's power, as an observer of ever-spreading millennial impersonality, derives from his unwillingness to condemn. He retains a clinical detachment, even if his reliance on digital technology to erase unwanted elements sometimes results in excessive artifice. *Times Square* is the title of a disorientating image, where Gursky trains his camera on the bland interior of a Portman Hotel courtyard. Most of the picture-space is taken up with lozenges of white and yellow ranged in stern, eye-baffling formations. Gursky has digitally removed so much detail that they look like a minimalist relief.

Vestiges of dangling plants help us to realise that the lozenges are balcony walkways, but the few figures detectable have been drained of colour. Reduced to near-disembodiment, they resemble ghosts rather than guests or staff. But Gursky makes us so conscious of his interference that the image is not as persuasive as his less doctored works.

Maybe Gursky's love of painting drove him to push *Times Square* too far. But most of his pictures are enriched by their references to artists as disparate as Caspar David Friedrich and Dan Flavin. He shows how the camera's ever-expanding resources can convey a vision as unsettling and eloquent as any to be found in the art of our time.

When Gursky photographs Jackson Pollock's *One: Number 31*, enclosed in horizontal bands of purifying light on its customary wall in New York's Museum of Modern Art, he aims not simply to show how a Modernist masterpiece is displayed with quasi-religious zeal. He also wants to celebrate a transcendent moment in Pollock's work, and imply that his own hopes for a powerful lens-based art are no less ambitious.

● *Andreas Gursky, sponsored by Selfridges, is at the Serpentine Gallery (0171-402 6075) until March 7*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

■ THROUGHOUT the past two centuries waves of immigrants and refugees have been making important contributions to Britain's rich and many-stranded culture. **Franciszka Themerson**, for example, who came to London from Warsaw with her husband Stefan in 1940 and lived here for the rest of her life, brought something distinctive to British painting and book design, something which clearly fitted into the British art scene but at the same time had about it an exotic, East European quality. Her two worlds met particularly in the area of humorous draughtsmanship. During the 1950s the Gabberbocchus Press, which she founded and ran with her writer husband, introduced a kind of jolly Surrealism which looked forward to Monty Python and back, possibly, to Edward Lear. Many of the drawings in the show at Art First will stir nostalgia in the older generation, but remain fresh and delightful to youngsters.

Art First, 9 Cork Street, W1 (0171-734 0386), until Feb 11

■ ANOTHER artist from Poland who arrived in Britain at about the same time was **Stefan Knapp** (1921-96). Knapp's early work also shows Surrealist tendencies, but he soon moved into freeform abstraction and it was in that field that he achieved his most strking successes. With the coming of Pop Art the forms in his acrylic paintings and enamel murals become even brighter and more cartoony. Again, Monty Python hovers on the horizon.

Polish Cultural Institute, 34 Portland Place, W1 (0171-636 6032), until Friday

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

How the lottery has played to the Tate Gallery

By 2001 the Tate will have two London sites to run. Can it afford them? Joanna Pitman reports



HAYES DAVIDSON

The Tate Gallery of British Art will soon light up Millbank after its £32 million revamp

It is still hard to know which of our impoverished museums and galleries has reaped most from the early bounty of the lottery, but it has certainly done much to spur the empire-building ambitions of the Tate Gallery.

No sooner have we got our minds around the ambitious new lottery-funded £130 million Tate Gallery of Modern Art which will open in the former power station at Bankside in May next year, than we are confronted with another major lottery-funded Tate development: the £32 million Tate Gallery of British Art at Millbank. As the collections are being divided and modern international art is preparing to start trooping across the river to Bankside, Millbank has been organising its own transformation.

The architects John Miller and Partners have come up with a scheme that involves the wholesale internal reconstruction of the western quarter of the Millbank site. A courtyard, storage area and five small galleries that used to house the Hogarth and Gainsborough collections have already been wiped off the Tate map. In their place, visitors can peer down from a small window in the Duveen Galleries, and watch construction workers laying the foundations for four new and five refurbished galleries. on the main floor, six new temporary exhibition galleries in the basement, a new entrance on Atterbury Street and much-needed improved facilities for the disabled. The new gallery will be launched in June 2001.

Are we also going to get a ground-breaking new approach to display? Yes, says Dr Stephen Deuchar, the newly appointed director of the Tate Gallery of British Art. "We'll have 35 per cent more space for the permanent collection and the chance to increase the number of special exhibitions from three to six each year. Our approach will also be different. The whole exhibition space will be divided into four quadrants, each representing a time frame — 1500-1800, 19th century, 20th century and 21st century. Then within each, rather than arranging a chronological plod through the ages, we'll have thematic sweeps across the centuries looking at particular ideas such as race, class or landscape and focusing on particular artists. The new arrangements will give subtle mixes encouraging the visitor to think of the historic and the contemporary together."

What about the overlap of contemporary British art which could be claimed by both Bankside and Millbank? Deuchar says that the Turner Prize will remain at Millbank, and that British works will be shown in different contexts at the two different sites. "A Bacon might be hung among works by Constable at Millbank, to show it in a particular light, whereas it might be set at Bankside in a world view of the 20th century."

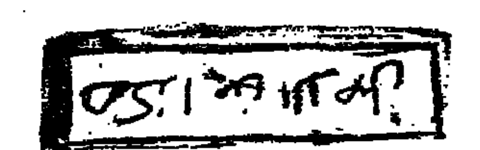
So now that there are to be four distinct Tate Galleries (including the Tate Liverpool and Tate St Ives), how will they be administered and staffed? The theory is that Nicholas Serota will be an overall chief executive figure, with a director running each gallery. Bankside will have a staff of 80-100 and Millbank, the effective headquarters of the group, will house 400, including a central bank of curators, exhibition organisers, fundraisers and service staff, who will be parcelled out to run aspects of displays in the different sites.

The strategy is not popular internally. A number of curators, who see themselves as the lifeblood of the Tate in terms of scholarship and ideas, are unhappy about being turned into a "new breed" that will have to create displays, organise exhibitions, see through the shows and do other administrative tasks. "We feel our work is being neglected and discounted in favour of the rise in administration," says one.

If Serota has a staff quarrel on his hands, he also still has a funding challenge. The lion's share of the bill for the new Tate Gallery of British Art has come from the Heritage Lottery Fund (£18.75 million) and from individual donors and foundations including Sir Edwin and Lady Manton, Lord and Lady Sainsbury of Preston Candover and Sir Harry and Lady Djanogly.

Millbank has £1 million still to raise to complete its capital funding, and Bankside is £18 million short. And when Bankside opens, running costs will shoot up by £10 million a year. At least half will, it is hoped, come from Bankside's retail revenues and other income. But the rest? The Government's annual grant to the Tate is £19 million, and a 20 per cent increase is unlikely. The Tate's finance director, Alex Beard, says: "There may be opportunities for government support and we'll also start approaching individuals for endowment finance."

Since they have already tapped the world's wealthiest for almost £100 million in capital funding, this last sounds like a tall order. Raising revenue funding is proving to be the curse of the lottery.



LISTINGS
A dancing Edward II

ARTS

CLASSICAL CHOICE
The best West Side Story

SALLY SOAMES

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA: That heady double act of pulchritude and talent, the Labèque sisters, join the PO for Poulenc's Concerto for Two Pianos. The all-French programme, conducted by the distinguished Charles Dutoit, continues with works by Milhaud and Ravel.
Festival Hall (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm.

EDWARD II. Birmingham Royal Ballet pirouettes into town for a short season comprising two programmes. David Bintley's acclaimed work based on Marlowe's harrowing play about the homosexual monarch opens the run.
Sadler's Wells (0171-713 6000). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

SPERM WARS. David Lewis's excellent first play about the anxieties of reproduction returns for two weeks.
Orange Tree (0181-940 3633). Tonight, 7.45pm.

Steven Isserlis plays Fauré's *Elegie* in Oxford

ELSEWHERE

GUILDFORD. Two major American actors, Richard Dreyfuss and Marsha Mason, head the cast in the British premiere of **The Prisoner of Second Avenue**, Neil Simon's comic account of one man's mid-life crisis.
Yvonne Arnaud (01483 440000). Opens tonight, 7.45pm.

LEEDS. Ian McKellen plays Prospero in Jude Kelly's production of **The Tempest** for the Courtyard Company.
Courtyard (0113-213 7700). Opens tonight, 7.45pm.

OXFORD: The virtuoso cellist Steven Isserlis joins the **Oxford Philomusica** for a rendering of Saint Saëns's Suite for Cello and Fauré's *Elegie* in the first concert of the orchestra's spring season. Also on the programme is Bruckner's *Te Deum* where four solo singers of international renown join the Philomusica Chorus. Manos Papadopoulos conducts.
Sheldonian Theatre (01865 798600). Tonight, 8pm.

WATFORD. Darkness Falls is the omnibus title for two spooky plays for winter: Jonathan Holloway adapts W.W. Jacobs's classic *The Monkey's Paw*, plus his own chiller *The Dark*.
Palace (01923 225671). Opens tonight, 7.45pm.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available ☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **YOU'LL HAVE HAD YOUR HOLE:** Irvine Welsh play, obsessed with anal rape, drugs and torture, nauseated most critics and many others at its Leeds premiere.
Astoria (0171-434 0403).

☐ **CERTAIN YOUNG MEN.** Peter Gill directs Jeremy Northam, Sean Chapman and six other young actors in his exploration of the way today's men live together.
Almeida (0171-359 4404).

◪ **THE FOREST.** Alan Ayckbourn adapts Ostrovsky's sardonic 1870 comedy, with Michael Feast's impoverished actor trying to impress his rich aunt (Frances de la Tour). Anthony Page directs.
Lyttelton (0171-452 3000).

☐ **OKLAHOMA!:** National Theatre cast includes Maureen Lipman in transfer of Trevor Nunn's Rodgers and Hammerstein.
Lyceum (0171-416 6099).

◪ **RICHARD III.** Robert Lindsay puts on the hump for Elijah Moshinsky's RSC production.
Savoy (0171-836 8888).

☐ **THE MEMORY OF WATER.** Alison Steadman, Samantha Bond and Julia Sawalha star in Shelagh Stephenson's acclaimed family drama.
Vaudeville (0171-836 9987).

☐ **THE STREET OF CROCODILES:** Welcome return for Theatre de Complicite's staging of Bruno Schulz's recollections of pre-Nazi Poland.
Queens (0171-494 5041).

☐ **VASSA:** Sheila Hancock heads a terrific cast in Gorky's strong drama. Howard Davies directs.
Albery (0171-369 1730).

☐ **SHADOWS:** Two short plays by Synge (*Riders to the Sea*, *The Shadow of the Glen*) and Yeats's *Purgatory* make up an evening of powerful Irish drama. John Crowley directs.
Pit (0171-638 8891).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15): Ripping yarn about the upstart William Shakespeare with serious quill problems. A cracking script by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard. Gwyneth Paltrow excels as the Bard's cross-dressing muse.

STEPMOM (12). Squelchy divorce movie with Julia Roberts as the hapless new woman in Ed Harris's life, and Susan Sarandon as the terminally ill ex-wife. The two spoilt kids, Jena Malone and Ian Aiken, give it a high Kleenex rating.

VERY BAD THINGS (18): Peter Berg's macabre comedy thriller satirises buddy movies and smug suburban lifestyles by chopping up half the cast. Demonic peformances from Christian Slater and Cameron Diaz.

TWO GIRLS AND A GUY (15). Robert Downey Jr plays a charming creep who strings along Natasha Wagner and Heather Graham. James Toback's piece on sexual fidelity falls on its sword when the girls fail to crucify him.

A MAN AND A WOMAN (PG): Claude Lelouch's whimsical French seaside romance won two Oscars in 1966. Apart from the soulful performances of Anouk Aimée and Jean-Louis Trintignant, it's hard to see why.

CURRENT

HILARY AND JACKIE (15): Anand Tucker's controversial biopic about the late Jacqueline du Pré with Emily Watson and Rachel Griffiths.

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12). Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman star as witches in a flashy gothic soap about sisters with fatal attraction. Too sweet to digest.

BULWORTH (18): Warren Beatty's disillusioned senator suddenly discovers a taste for telling home truths. A shameless ego trip, but a wonderful comic spin on political manipulation.

CLASS TRIP (15): Quirky French thriller about a school trip haunted by the waking nightmares of a young boy. Claude Miller directs.

LITTLE VOICE (15): Mark Herman's wonderful version of Jim Cartwright's stage hit. Jane Horrocks sings glorious covers of torch song divas. Michael Caine, Ewan McGregor, Brenda Blethyn and Jim Broadbent sleaze around in the foreground.

Requiem for my wife

On Day Two of our Penguin classical CDs offer, read what the novelist **D.M. Thomas** reveals in his sleeve note to the Mozart Requiem

The Friday of Whitsun, 1998, was the first time I truly heard Mozart's Requiem — though I had listened to it often; and the first time I truly saw our garden, though I have lived here for ten years.

I had driven my wife to hospital to undergo radiotherapy. We knew it could not cure her, only mitigate the pain. As, nauseous, she rested in bed after, I walked around our large Cornish garden, grieving for her, and our son, and myself. For 30 years she has been my centre: all my writing is drenched in her inspiration: when I wrote *The White Hotel* the one name from my personal life that I knew I must include was hers: Denise.

I felt an anguished wonder, suddenly, at the garden she has created out of a wilderness. I have not pulled out a single weed; only grumbled at the expense, and been indulgently amused by the extreme care she took over where shrubs and flowers should be planted or replanted. Now, at last, on a radiant afternoon, I could see the whole vibrant, fully realised garden: the wildness given form without being neutered. I went to her and said shakily: "It really is a beautiful garden." Opening her eyes she murmured: "It's not bad, is it?" "It's beautiful! It's as good as a collection of poems." My words pleased her. I thought: she has been convinced tormentingly that she has achieved nothing: not created the pictures and poems of her intense imagination, but left them for more leisurely decades. In vain I've reminded her of the hundreds of children she had taught with love and skill, and who have been forever enriched. She'd say: "Yes, but these last ten years, what have I achieved?"

"I thought I'd have the time to appreciate it," she said. "It will be another three or four years before it's perfect. And, when you sell the house, people will change the garden."

"They'll see it's too beautiful to want to change it very much." I wept.

I went to my study, overlooking the garden, and put on the Requiem. Every section, every phrase, now fully lived: *Et lux perpetua* and *Kyrie eleison*, for the ground of our relationship has been as bumpy, sometimes, as our garden and I was in need of mercy. The *Rex tremendae* brought me unbearably up against the mystery of this beautiful, heartbreaking Universe. In the *Lacrimosa* I saw Mozart on his deathbed, still composing, with Constanze crying and his pupil Süssmayer trying to read his mind. Though Mozart died in December 1791, he signed the unfinished work "1792" — either hoping to live, or believing the creation would go on. Rightly — for the modestly gifted pupil achieved a miracle in the *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei*.

Weakness and suffering are inwoven into this music, making it a requiem for us all. We leave to others what we cannot finish; love goes on growing, and the light shines.

"I went to my study and put on the Requiem," says D.M. Thomas. "Every section, every phrase now fully lived"

TOMORROW
Kazuo Ishiguro on Chopin's piano music

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Gothic glory

CONCERT
LPO/Haitink
Festival Hall

The stage directions read: "It is a vast, circular Gothic castle. Steep stairs at the left lead up to a small iron door. To the right of the stairs seven enormous doors . . . The hall is empty, dark and forbidding." Does this describe the interior of the Festival Hall? Yet on Saturday night, through the miracle of Bartók's music, Bernard Haitink and a London Philharmonic on top form, almost every physical detail or lighting cue required by a staging of *Bluebeard's Castle* was conjured up in sound alone.

If the castle is Bluebeard's, the opera, written in 1911 to a Hungarian libretto by the literary whirlwind and future film theorist Béla Balász, definitely belongs to Judith, the lovestruck mezzo-soprano with a fateful curiosity about what lies behind those doors. Petra Lang, dressed in virginal white, both hit and missed her marks: she was properly cowed by the blazing strength of the C major vistas opened up by the fifth door (one of music drama's great moments), but in the early stages failed to evoke the ardent glow that would help to explain why Judith should abandon hearth and home for this gloomy Gus of a Duke. Kolos Kováts, a veteran of Solti's 1979 recording, correctly suggested in his very first notes that this was a Bluebeard who murdered his wives in sorrow, not anger; yet in brief responses he was often cursory, occasionally inaudible, not helped by a demeanour suggesting a dignitary waiting to greet the Queen.

Overall, the evening's drama was focused in the orchestra. Haitink and the LPO made the very best of Bartók's dance of desire and death, savouring every element in his melting-pot: the folkloric gestures, the French Impressionistic glitter, the great theatrical flourishes. This was a reading full of fear and trembling, entirely worthy of the foreboding suggested in the spoken prologue, sonorously delivered, in authentic Hungarian, by the actor Sandor Eles.

On paper, Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, K551, seemed a daft concert companion. In practice, under Haitink's baton here in miniature was a drama just as telling as the opening of Bluebeard's doors.

GEOFF BROWN

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical CDs in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S WEST SIDE STORY
Reviewed by David Benedict

IN 1957, Leonard Bernstein and lyricist Stephen Sondheim — together with dramatist Arthur Laurents and choreographer/director Jerome Robbins — wrote something daringly new. They relocated Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* to contemporary gangland New York, simmering with racial hatred, and wrote a tragic musical.

Bernstein's almost symphonically conceived score is vividly theatrical and immensely singable. Yet the original reviews regarded the music as subservient to the dancing. The soundtrack of the Oscar-winning film changed all that, turning a "difficult" score into a hummable favourite. Of the five recordings now available that soundtrack is the most famous, yet most of the principals were dubbed and the result is a little remote.

Bernstein's own "crossover" recording has terrific orchestral playing but none of his operatic cast sounds young or raw enough, and José Carreras cannot cope with the syncopation. Barbara Bonney is radiant as Maria on an IMG recording but Michael Ball is horribly self-indulgent, and the rhythms collapse beneath Barry Wordsworth's uncharacteristically sloppy conducting.

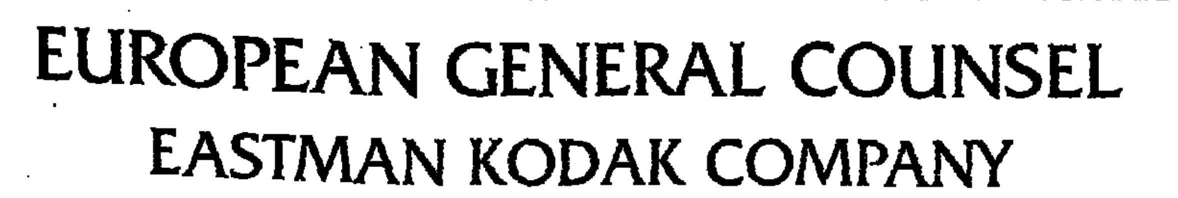
The real zing and zest of this powerfully dramatic score is alive and well in the original cast recording recently re-released on Sony Classical. The lead performances have astonishing freshness and bite but large chunks of the score are missing. Happily, the full score is available on That's Entertainment Records **(CDTER 2 1197, £26.99)**. With the exception of Caroline O'Connor's spitfire Anita, the principals don't quite equal the original cast, but the performance derives from a staged revival and the drama shines through every bar of the score.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (11am): Bach's Double Violin Concerto

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* UK Home Office Review of the Crown Dependencies.

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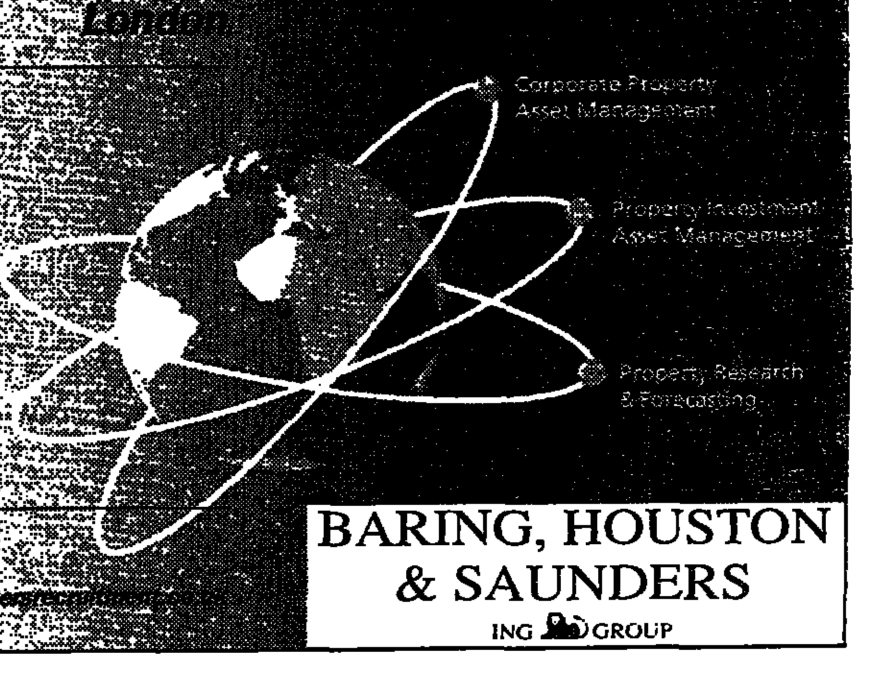
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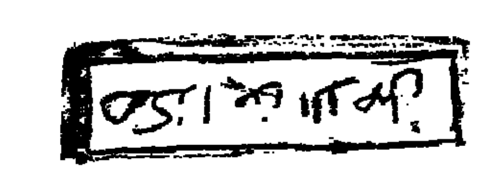




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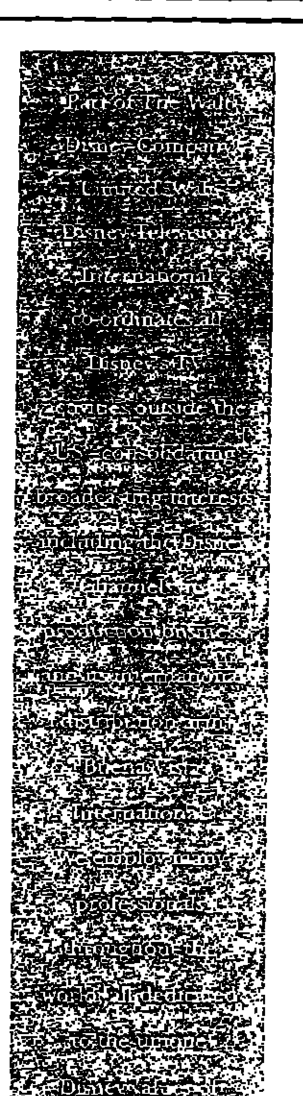
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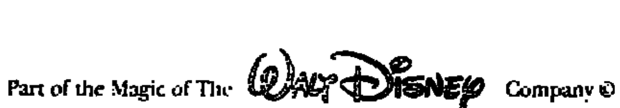
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LAW

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The positive side of publicity: Lisa Potts, the nursery school teacher who shielded her pupils from an attacker, was awarded the George Medal

Taking children out of the picture

Juveniles caught up in crime may not be named, to protect them from unwarranted publicity, says Michael Todd

Young people caught up in crime may soon be neither seen nor heard — at least, in the media. Government proposals to reform the law to make it almost impossible to identify juveniles involved in crime stories will ensure the *disappearance of the younger generation from a wide area of public life.*

Clause 43 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill, now being discussed in the House of Lords, would prohibit the media from publishing any details that might identify anybody under the age of 18 involved in any form of crime story.

The clause states that "where an allegation has been made that an offence has been committed ... no matter relating to any person involved in the offence when a minor" shall be published. It defines "any person involved" as "a person by, against or in respect of whom the offence is alleged to have been committed, or who is alleged to have been a witness to the commission of the offence".

The anonymity would apply as soon as it was alleged that an offence had been committed and would remain in force until lifted by an "appropriate criminal court", until court proceedings started, or, it seems, if criminal proceedings are not taken, until those involved pass their 18th birthdays. The anonymity would also apparently remain in force even if no offence was committed because it is triggered by the allegation, not the fact, of an offence. The clause is aimed at ending the problem that juveniles charged with offences may be named *in newspapers before they get* to court. Defending the measures last week, Paul Boateng, the Home Office Minister, said some media reporting of youth cases before charges were even laid could be "prejudicial and stigmatising".

It could influence the chance of the young person receiving a fair trial as guaranteed under the new Human Rights Act. Families of children accused could find themselves exposed to the full glare of publicity when they had done nothing to bring that upon themselves.

At present, when juveniles *appear in an adult court, they* may be granted anonymity under Section 39 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933. They are protected automatically when appearing in youth courts by S49 of the same Act. But it has not, until now, been suggested that all juveniles who become involved in any way in any form of criminal *event should automatically* become anonymous.

> Many will be deprived of public sympathy or support

Media organisations fear that the impact will be far-reaching: should Clause 43 become law, the media would, in the event of another Dunblane massacre, be unable to name any of the injured children, or name the school. There would be difficulty even in naming the teachers and other staff members because this would identify the school, which is specifically prohibited by Clause 43 (5).

In the case of Lisa Potts, the nursery nurse who was awarded the George Medal for rescuing children from a machete-wielding maniac, Clause 43(4)(a)(b) would have made it impossible to have identified the injured children, or any pupils who had seen the attack. Miss Potts's remarkable heroism might well have remained unreported.

Philip Lawrence, a London headmaster, was murdered outside the school gates as he sought to protect a pupil who was being attacked. Clause 43 would ensure that the school and area were not named and it might also have been unlawful to name Mr Lawrence, *because this too would have identified the school.*

The Bill also seeks to extend the range of information that might identify juveniles to cover their places of work. The media would be forbidden from *identifying the workplace* in the event of an armed robbery attempt foiled by a 17-year-old have-a-go hero. Whether the young hero could be named would depend on whether "any appropriate criminal court" would allow it. But courts, particularly magistrates' courts, are often over-keen on shielding juveniles from publicity — sometimes despite the wishes of the juvenile involved.

The media's ability to report many major stories could also be subject to the law's delays while a court called in a guardian *ad litem*, or ensured that all the juveniles' guardians were legally represented.

In cases of child abduction, the media would, before reporting the story, have to persuade a magistrate or judge not that it would be in the public interest or the child's interest to lift the ban on anonymity, but that it would be "in the interests of justice".

Even reports of road accidents would be affected — a child injured by a hit-and-run driver could not be named because a motoring offence was allegedly committed.

The intention of the Bill is to protect juveniles from overwhelming or intrusive publicity. But though some may be *protected from opprobrium,* many others will be deprived of well-deserved public sympathy or support.

Why skeletons should not be left in the past

On April 26, the civil justice system *will be transformed. From then on,* new Civil Procedure Rules will apply to the whole system. Instead of the parties, the judges will have the ultimate responsibility for the progress of cases. A heavy burden will fall on judges and the Court Service to ensure that the new system runs smoothly.

At all levels, the judiciary and the Court Service are embracing the challenge that the reforms present. A judicial training programme on an unprecedented scale is already taking place. Among the other preparations being made, 30 individuals have been designated as the judges in charge of the delivery of civil justice in different parts of the country. Working together with the Court Service, they will report to the new Head of Civil Justice on how the reforms are working. The Court of Appeal has a central role to play in ensuring that the reforms are a success. In implementing such radical changes, difficulties are bound to occur which the Court of Appeal will be required to solve. It must do so promptly. If guidance is delayed, problems will multiply.

Unlike the two sets of rules which they replace, the new rules are in readily understandable English. They also give judges much wider discretion as to how to manage and try cases. However, judges will need to learn how to interpret the new rules and how they should exercise their increased discretion. To assist the Court of Appeal in providing guidance, a small body of Lords Justices will be responsible for monitoring cases and liaising with lower courts so that difficulties can be identified.

LORD WOOLF

The members of the Court of Appeal, our in-house lawyers and our staff are endeavouring to be ready to provide the required service. A supervising Lord Justice has also been appointed to each area of the court's work to monitor and manage the progress of the cases to ensure they are disposed of expeditiously and efficiently. We have been promised additional judicial support from the different divisions of the High Court. With their help, we should have the judges we need.

As part of preparations, from the start of 1999 leave to appeal has been necessary for almost all appeals. The object is to prevent appeals which have no prospect of success. Experience shows that a requirement for leave benefits everyone. But, in the short term, the requirement involves additional work.

To coincide with the extension of the requirement for leave, I issued a Practice Direction explaining the changes and urging judges of first instance, when it is appropriate, to give leave to appeal themselves rather than leaving this to the Court of Appeal. The *Practice Direction requires the early delivery of* skeleton arguments. The skeletons are helpful when deciding whether to give leave to appeal. They make it clear to the court — in the way that a Notice of Appeal does not — what the appeal is really about.

When leave to appeal is given, a skeleton argument is also required from the other parties. This is because they are essential for the monitoring and management of appeals from the time of receipt. The Court of Appeal in a modern civil justice system must manage its workload.

As a regular reader of *The Times* column by David Pannick, QC, I know that he disapproves of skeletons being required so much earlier (Law, January 26). They had been required 14 days before the hearing of the appeal. This was obviously too late to enable the objectives I have described to be achieved.

The late date would also mean that skeletons could not be delivered sequentially, so that the second skeleton answered the points made in the first. Mr Pannick recognises that this is a disadvantage. In addition, the former timetable prevented the judges reading the papers, with the skeletons, well in advance of the hearing. This is necessary to check that the appeal is ready for hearing and for directing research by the court's lawyers or new judicial assistants. Finally, the change will enable the court to identify the appeals which should be encouraged to use the court's Alternative Dispute Resolution scheme.

Before the new timetable was introduced, the Bowman inquiry, the judges and the Users Committee of the Court (which includes solicitors and barristers) agreed it was in the best interests of the court, the parties and their lawyers that it should be adopted. Skeletons were only required to be delivered 14 days before the hearing date because of the reluctance of the Bar to produce them until they had to prepare the appeal for hearing anyway — 28 days before the hearing had been tried but the Bar disliked this alternative.

Another approach was necessary if the benefits were not to be lost. A date as close to the trial from which the appeal came was therefore selected for two reasons. First, if the skeletons are prepared while the case is still fresh in the lawyers' minds, their task will be easier. Secondly, the task of preparing the skeleton would involve focusing on the merits of the appeal. This should avoid the late abandoning of unnecessary arguments as happened routinely under the former system.

● *The author is Master of the Rolls.*

Legal DIARY

WHATEVER they decide about General Pinochet, the law lords, sitting as the Privy Council, have struck a blow for human rights for death row prisoners. In a landmark ruling last week, they held that the State could not move to execute two prisoners on death row in Trinidad and Tobago without taking account of their human rights obligations.

Two City law firms, Lovell White Durrant and Simmons & Simmons, and four barristers, including the QCs Nicholas Blake and James Guthrie, took on the case without charge.

The three-two ruling by the law lords *has been* widely welcomed. Yasmin Waljee of Lovells said the decision would mark a turning point. "At issue is the extent to which the executive can violate its human rights obligation," she says. "This means that where a State wishes to carry out the death penalty, it *cannot do so at the ex*pense of the legal rights of prisoners on death row — rights enshrined in international conventions on human rights."

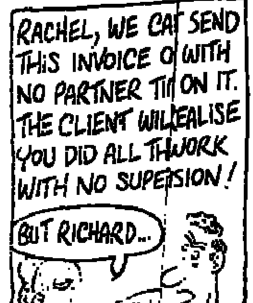
□ Forget the millennium bug: solicitors *have gone into panic mode over* Lord Woolf's civil justice reforms (*see above*). One barristers' chambers has had the bright idea of producing a Woolf Net guide to help with the 800 pages of new rules and procedures, which take effect on April 26. The set at 2 Temple Gardens was deluged within *48 hours of the rules* being published last week.

Jeremy Stuart-Smith, QC, said: "We have had more than 7,500 hits, mainly from solicitors but also from others such as electricity companies. The solicitor response has been extraordinary: at least one big firm has downloaded the entire commentary and circulated it to every fee-earner."

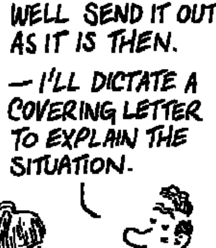
Now the set is arranging free seminars in response to the demand.

□ Lord Falconer of Thoroton was scarcely five minutes into his new job of Solicitor-General before he was whisked off to the Cabinet Office as deputy enforcer, then made Minister for the Millennium Dome. But he is far from lost to the legal profession. The former top-earning QC and friend of the Prime Minister is helping Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chan*cellor, to steer his Access to Justice Bill* through the Lords.

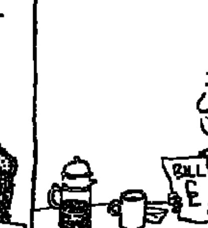
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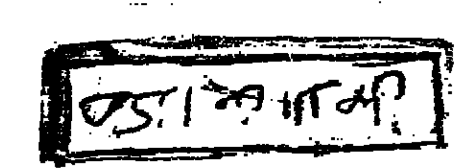



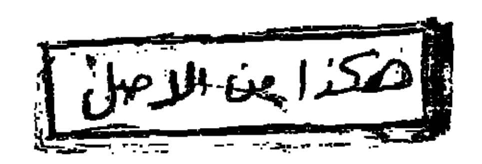


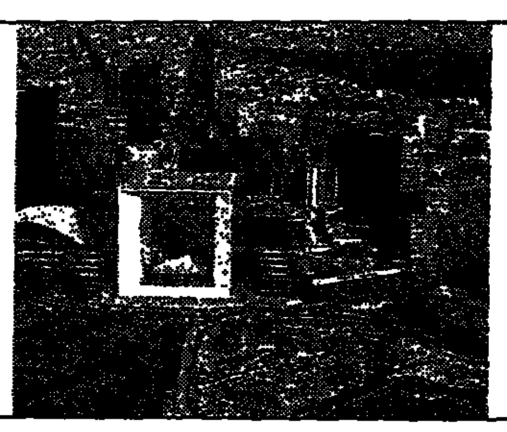
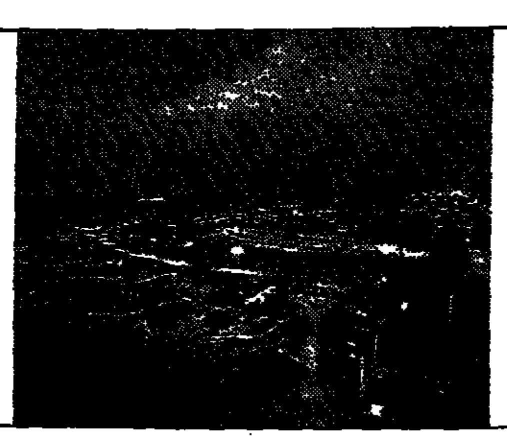
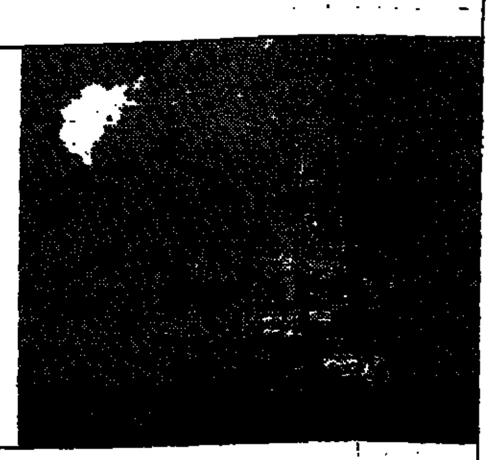








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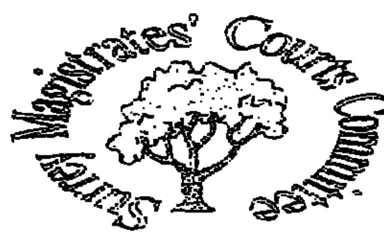
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Can Labour save the family?

New proposals support those commited to marriage and children. Chris Barton reports


CAPITAL PICTURES

Health visitors will have bigger roles in advising and supporting couples; grandparents are to help more; and prenuptial contracts are mooted

When the Government unveiled its plans for boosting the family last November it did not have in mind a promotion of blind date weddings. But what did it want? This week is the deadline for responding to those plans, outlined in the consultation paper, *Supporting Families*. The paper trumpeted the merits of marriage, but was careful to insist that it was not lecturing and noted that "we in government need to *approach family policy* with a strong sense of humility". Have they come up with other good points?

Marriage registrars and health visitors will have far bigger roles in advising and supporting couples; *grandparents are to help more;* and prenuptial contracts are mooted. But on its general theme, the paper is ambivalent: it suggests that marriage is the best unit for bringing up children but also says that lone parents and *unmarried couples* successfully rear children.

It confirms that unmarried fathers will gain parental responsibility by jointly registering a birth, and says that "many unmarried couples raise their children *every bit as successfully as mar*ried parents".

On the other hand, because ministers "share the belief of the majority of people that it provides the most reliable framework for raising children, they have decided to strengthen the marital family. But rather than giving spouses preferred status in, say, fiscal matters, ministers seem to believe that the *best way forward is to* jazz up weddings and to make divorce less trying. Before the knot is tied, it is hoped that the couple will *undergo* preparation to consider "how their finances will be organised, where they will live and whether they will have children". To give them time to do this, they will have to give at least 15 days' notice of their in*tention to wed* (*as* opposed to the present minimum of one clear day). They will both have to attend the register office for this purpose, spelling *the end to those television* programmes in which one party is pressured into celebrating an unplanned wedding immediately.

Following the trend set by the Marriage Act 1994, the nuptial act itself is to be fur*ther deregulated, with regis*trars being "flexible about *the format of the marriage* ceremonies couples choose". Will we witness the emergence of a new profession, that of marriage director?

Compared with previous progenitors, such parents are also destined to spend more *time with health visitors,* whose role is about to shift from solving problems to preventing them. In future, they are to provide advice about "parenting skills", which may include corporal punishment, with the help of "inno*vative techniques such as vid*eo and cartoon formats".

Emboldened by the results of a survey which showed that 92 per cent of grandparents have regular contact with their grandchildren, and that 47 per cent help to look after them — and no doubt hoping to defray costs *that might otherwise fall to* the public purse — the Government is looking for ways to enhance the link.

Time off for urgent family reasons is a liberating reform

Hidden away on page 26 is the most thrillingly liberating legal reform of our time: "Time off for urgent family *reasons is to be introduced* for all employees, regardless *of length of service*". *This* will cover looking after a child, or an elderly parent who has fallen ill, or any other domestic crisis.

Supporting Families does not, sadly, contain further details of length of notice *(none, presumably), dura*tion, pay or time off in lieu. But it is believed that employers with the right policies in this regard will be better placed to recruit and retain skilled staff.

On publication of the paper, it was *the proposals for* premarital contracts that most caught the public imagination. But the Government seems to have fallen for the Solicitors' Family Law Association arguments in favour of these. Such ar*rangements are to be bind*ing, but only in the absence *of one of the following: one* or both parties not receiving independent legal advice, the couple having offspring or the enforcement of the agreement causing injustice.

Although we may sympathise with the needs of di*vorce lawyers (whose busi*ness is threatened by mediators) to become marriage lawyers, it will hardly help their reputation to become involved in contracts that contain the seeds of their own invalidity. Nor will such con*tracts help the Government* to "support families", marital or otherwise.

● *The author is Professor Barton of Staffordshire University's Centre for the Study of the Family, Law & Social Policy. His colleagues, Mary Hibbs and Jo Beswick, also contributed to this article.*

When taking on libel is a real liability

Be sure you know the risks before taking court action, says David Price

We have witnessed the penultimate step in the fall of Jonathan Aitken. The plea of guilty to perjury in his libel action against *The Guardian* and *World in Action* destroyed what tatters of his *reputation were left. All that re*mains is the expected exemplary custodial sentence. But will his fate deter others from launching bogus defamation actions?

Aitken is by no means the worst casualty in this battleground. In *Johnson v Browning* in the 18th century, Lord Holt refers to a slander action in which the plaintiff sued over the suggestion that he was a highwayman, lost and was promptly arrested in court, taken to Newgate and hanged.

Then there was Os*car Wilde, who fa*mously sued the Marquess of Queensberry for *slander*. The marquess was upset about the attention paid by Wilde to his son, and accused the writer of "posing as a somdomite" (everyone knew what he meant). The *jury decided the accusation was* justified. Wilde was prosecuted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Libel will always attract chancers

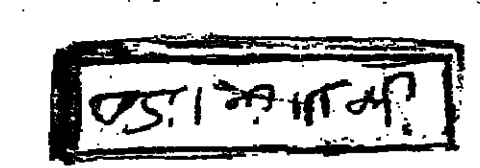
More recently, Tommy Docherty, the football manager, faced a prosecution for perjury after a failed libel action. Do*cherty brought an action over* a fairly innocuous article in *Kick Off* magazine. Willie Morgan, a former Manchester United player, was reported as saying that Docherty was "about the worst manager there has ever been".

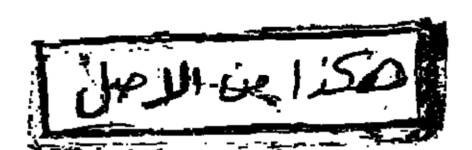
Docherty found himself in the *witness box for three and a half* days as his managerial career was dissected by a leading barrister. When Docherty gave conflicting answers over the transfer of Denis Law, it was put to him that he had told a "pack of lies". The question is often put to *a witness, but rarely answered* affirmatively. Mr Docherty, however, who was wilting under the ferocious cross-examation, simply said: "Yes, it has turned out that way." The case was adjourned, discussions ensued and Mr Docherty agreed to discon*tinue and to pay all of Mr Mor*gan's costs. Two years later, he found himself prosecuted for perjury. He was acquitted, the jury accepting his explanation *that he had not intended to mis*lead the court but had got carried away under the unrelenting pressure of cross-examination (the "Carman defence").

But such falls from grace on the part of a defamation plaintiff as Aitken and Docherty aside, there seems to be no prosecution this century for perjury arising from a civil *defamation action.* That, however, is more a reflection on the reluctance of the authorities to prosecute, rather than the truthfulness of witnesses in libel actions. For every Aitken, there are a hundred Liberaces or Maxwells, who *emerge smiling from the* High Court with a spotless reputation and a large tax-free sum. Even when a plaintiff loses in circumstances where the jury must have disbelieved him, the chance of a prosecution for perjury is remote. The CPS seems to want in*controvertible evidence of deceit* and only rarely will there be the certainty of the DNA on Monica Lewinsky's dress or the air ticket used by Aitken's daughter.

The tale of Aitken may give temporary pause for thought for those contemplating embarking *on a defamation action in the* face of the truth. But libel will always attract the chancers (as well as those seeking genuine vindication). The odds of success remain pretty good.

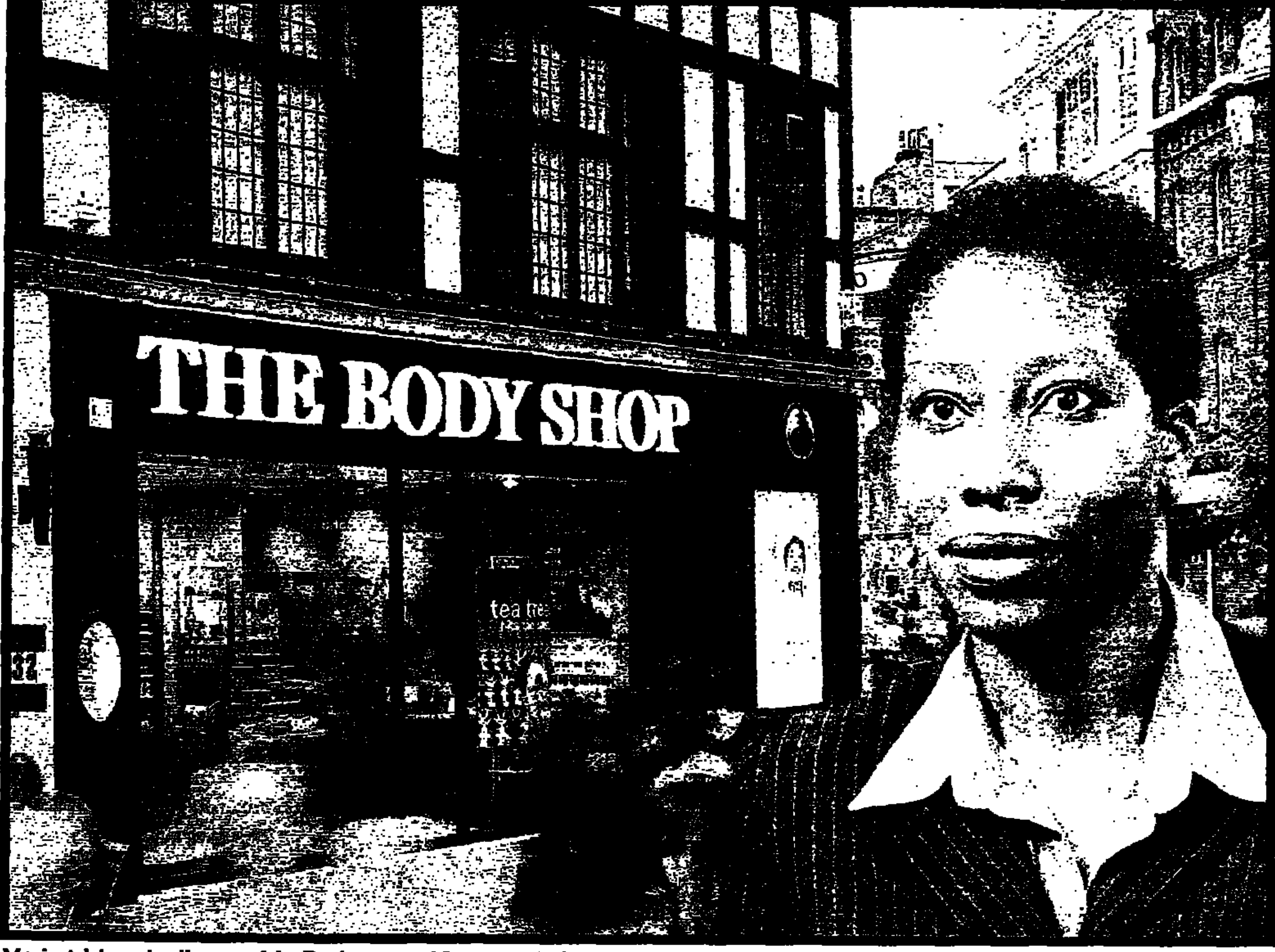
● *David Price is a libel solicitor and the author of* Defamation: Law, Procedure and Practice *(Sweet & Maxwell).*





Lawyers take up eco cause

Environment issues are now taken seriously, says **Frances Gibb**



Maria Adebowale, director of the Environmental Law Foundation: "not an organisation for lawyers but of lawyers working for the community"

Swampy and his tribe have put eco-wars on the map; but other environmental battles are being waged and won away from the trenches and glare of the media.

A national charity called the Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) is pioneering a new kind of legal service, one that acts as a link between communities or individuals with an environmental problem and a network of specialist lawyers.

For minimal fees, it has taken on cases from air and water pollution to building development, transport, loss of open spaces and habitats. But the foundation is not some kind of makeshift pressure group backed by grungey eco-warriers; it boasts the full backing and involvement of leading lawyers in the legal profession.

Stephen Hockman, QC, its chairman, says: "It is valued by the grassroots environmental organisations and activists, as well as being valued by such bodies as the Law Society and Bar Council."

Now in its seventh year, it has nearly 800 cases under its belt in which help was given, often without charge, to community groups and individuals who would otherwise have been unable to obtain it. In essence, it is a referral system: people are put in touch with experts who give initial advice and follow-up free or at a discount.

Cases include the Malvern residents who secured the early closure of an incinerator emitting harmful pollution; the relocation of a coach park that was affecting residents' health and environment; and a campaign to block planned roads through water meadows. Residents were successfully advised in opposing plans for open-cast mining in Nottingham's green belt and parish council members at Steeple Aston in Oxfordshire were helped to save their 400-year-old parish hedges from a proposed development.

The foundation also backed a test case brought by 1,000 London Docklands residents over nuisance, noise and pollution resulting from the Limehouse Link construction site and interference to their television sets by Canary Wharf Tower, which went to the House of Lords. They won a partial victory in the Court of Appeal but lost in the Lords.

The foundation is not interested only in taking people to court. It is keen to find other ways of resolving disputes. In many ways, it is the very model the Government wants to encourage in its community legal service, where a large-scale impact is achieved with modest staff (in the foundation's case, one full and one part-time). The 300 lawyers and other technical specialists or academics who, as members, make up the referral network, work *pro bono*, or for reduced charges, unless the individuals qualify for legal aid.

But the foundation is worried that legal aid reforms will cut the numbers of cases it can take on.

Maria Adebowale, ELF's director, says: "This would mean reducing access to justice rather than expanding it." She also fears that conditional fees ("no win, no fee") are not suitable for many environmental cases because only the bigger cases are likely to be taken up.

ELF's cases tend to have high investigative costs and to be complex. But under the Government's legal aid reforms, the foundation's record should ensure that it is well placed to seek contracts itself for providing legal services or many of its cases should qualify for the help the Lord Chancellor has promised for cases with high initial costs or deserving of funds on public interest grounds.

Meanwhile, the foundation is widening its brief. A transport law project has been launched with the solicitors Leigh Day & Co, which has produced a report to identify and assess legal options for making roads safer, particularly for children, and to encourage walking and cycling.

A second initiative is a Green Office project with Department of the Environment funds. The law firms Bindmans and Radcliffes, and barristers at Old Square Chambers and Doughty Street, are taking part. The aim is to bring recycling and other sustainable development policies into law firms and chambers.

A project has also been set up with the Body Shop Foundation to help community groups, including ethnic minorities and those on low incomes, with environmental problems. Then there is training through conferences and seminars and legal updates. But Ms Adebowale insists the emphasis is on consumers of legal services. "It is not an organisation of lawyers," she adds, "but lawyers working for the community."

● *ELF: Unit 309, The Chandlery, 50 Westminister Bridge Road, London SE1 7QY (0171-721 7693)*

Why nannies must be put on a register

A family law barrister is campaigning for the regulation of nanny agencies

Late last month, in between robing up for court, Anne Waddington was deluged with calls. As well as juggling her career as a family law barrister with being a wife and mother, she is a leading voice in the pressure group Playpen which campaigns for the regulation of nanny agencies.

So in the wake of recent press coverage on the court case dealing with the death of the baby Caroline Jongen at the hands of Louise Sullivan, the Government's pledge for an agency kitemark is a step forward.

"At last, the Government is recognising Britain's childcare crisis. But what is proposed is very restrictive: there are 100,000 known nannies operating; only a third are registered with agencies and very few of them get jobs through those agencies," she says.

Ms Waddington warns parents that a kitemark would also push up agency fees — already at a national average of £450 a placement and up to £1,600 in London — so that few families would be able to afford them.

Ms Waddington, who took up the campaign when looking for a nanny for her children, Lucy, six, and Harry, four, says: "One applicant looked phenomenally brilliant, but her CV didn't ring true and the agency hadn't done the checks. I spent five days making my own inquiries."

The girl turned out to be a plant, working on a Yorkshire TV programme, documenting the lack of agency research.

Ms Waddington then met people whose children had been injured by nannies, including one mother whose child had suffered brain damage. Playpen was founded soon afterwards.

Playpen would also like to see a national reference register or database on which employers could place references and would-be employers pay to see them or obtain contact details.

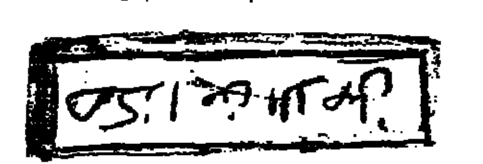
Such a register — if it were international — could have highlighted the fact that Sullivan had been previously employed for just two months by an Australian family who had found her shaking their baby. The group has the backing of more than 170 MPs; now it needs £500,000 to set up the register. Ms Waddington says: "Choosing a nanny is a dilemma for any parent and my work makes me even more painfully aware of the problems. "If you put a young, ill-equipped childcarer in a vulnerable position — the equivalent position to a young, single mother — it is not a good starting point for the nurturing that small children need and deserve."

> 'Choosing a carer is a dilemma for any parent'
> *Anne Waddington*

As a barrister in family law who deals with children's cases, she sees problems at the end of the line. This week she has been battling for a mother who faces her child being taken into care and adopted. It is in cases like this, Ms Waddington says, that a group such as Playpen can secure changes which on a wider scale prevent problems before they occur.

FRANCES GIBB

● *Playpen, c/o PAN, 2 St James' Court, Friar Gate, Derby DE1 1BT (01332 343029)*



هكذا من الأصل

Oliver Holt in Miami on a Super Bowl that choked on its own excess

Denver's night overshadowed by Prophet's fall

It was in South Beach, amid the Art Deco, the model agencies and the pavement cafés, where it all began to unravel. By Saturday night, the Super Bowl had turned its host city into Sodom-on-Sea and Ocean Drive was gridlocked with stretch limousines, hustlers and frantic rubberneckers.

Somewhere in the mêlée, a man had coiled a thick, writhing python around his neck. From time to time, he raised it above his head, as though he were lifting a trophy of evil. A few blocks away, less than 24 hours before the biggest match of his life, one of the best-known players of the Atlanta Falcons was being marched away to jail. This Super Bowl was about to choke on its own excess.

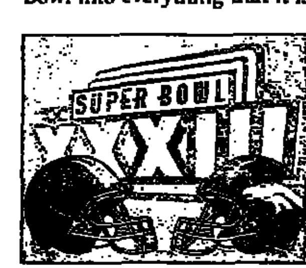
His team-mates like to call Eugene Robinson "The Prophet" because of his loquacity and his religious zeal. On Saturday, some time around 9pm, The Prophet, who had won an award for his "strong moral character" a few hours earlier, was arrested after it was alleged that he had propositioned an undercover policewoman posing as a prostitute and demanded sex.

Robinson played in Super Bowl XXXIII, which the Falcons duly lost, sullenly, dispiritedly, to the Denver Broncos. He tried to make amends for the uproar that he had caused, but he tried too hard. He succeeded only in making the crucial mistake that gave the Broncos an advantage that they would never relinquish.

So while John Elway, the Broncos quarterback and the game's Most Valuable Player, was taking the plaudits and listening to the barrage of pleas for him to nurse his creaking body through one last year so that he can lead the Broncos in their attempt to win an unprecedented three consecutive Super Bowls, the rest of us were drawn to the losers.

Elway's was a familiar story anyway, almost a carbon-copy of the events of last year, when he finally broke his losing Super Bowl streak. This time, the Broncos' victory was anti-climactic and Elway seemed to be underwhelmed, even though he made all the right noises. But there was a fascination about Atlanta that outweighed the simple fact of their 34-19 defeat.

They had turned the Super Bowl into everything that it is



not supposed to be: immoral, not wholesome; an examination of the reasons for failure, not victory; a force for division and tortured self-introspection. Suddenly, no one cared about the billions of dollars that the game was supposed to be raking in. They just wanted to know about the meagre bucks that Robinson was alleged to have been offering.

His team-mates talked about the distraction that it had been, the way it had soured their first appearance in the Super Bowl. It was a sad, hopelessly under-achieving end to a season that had exceeded all expectations.

After the game, the Prophet strode into the wilderness of gasping, sweating journalists who moved in a great mass to besiege him. He looked most unlike a chastened man of God. In fact, he seemed almost unable to keep a smirk from his face. His words were articulate, but they only added to the sense of a seedy soap opera that was more *Sunset Beach* than *Dynasty*.

"My lawyer has advised me not to talk about the arrest," Robinson, who plays at safety in the Falcons defense, said. "I feel strongly that I will be found innocent but not righteous of this deal. But what I want to do now is to apologise to my Lord Jesus Christ, secondly to my wife and kids and thirdly to the entire Falcons organisation for the distraction I have caused them.

"This goes beyond football because I am a husband and a father. I have told my wife that I am deeply sorry and I know that the ramifications will be far-reaching. When I was in jail, I thought about my Lord Jesus Christ and I fell on my knees. You will call me a hypocrite, but I can deal with that.

"I did not sleep last night. They say that confession is good for the soul but not for the reputation. Well, I can deal with my reputation, but I could not ask for forgiveness for this because there is no way I could do penance for what I have done. But I am not going to hide from you."

All around him in the seething media tent behind Pro Player Stadium, his Falcons team-mates looked shell-shocked. They had never really tested the Broncos, particularly after Elway threw the second-longest touchdown pass in Super Bowl history to Rod Smith late in the first half, a pass that left Robinson floundering and the Broncos with a 17-3 lead.

Everywhere, there were symbols of failure. Dan Reeves, clearly shaken by the furore surrounding Robinson, said that he had allowed the player to decide whether he was mentally fit to play. Reeves was grappling with his own demons after his fourth Super Bowl defeat as a coach and his inability to avenge his dismissal as Denver coach seven years ago.

At another podium, Cornelius Bennett was trying to put a brave face on his new record. The Falcons' defeat meant that he became the first man to play on the losing side in a Super Bowl five times. He managed a thin smile or two, but it was hard.

"I am just praying I get a chance at a sixth," he said. "It goes both ways for me because I feel blessed to have been given the chance to play in five games like that. I am just going to keep on keeping on and win one of these things. Some great players never even get to a Super Bowl. I have to be thankful for what I've got."

Bennett, who was in trouble with the law himself earlier in the season when he pleaded guilty to a charge of battery, pledged his support to Robinson, who had helped him when he was down. "It didn't help," Bennett said, "but the fact that it happened so close to the game meant it didn't really have a chance to make an impact on us."

By then, Robinson was well on the way to recovering his poise. As he climbed down from his podium, he was met by an young female television reporter. He wrapped his right arm round her and made her a promise. "Carla," he said. "I'm going to have to give you an exclusive."

MARC ASPLAND



Elway holds aloft the Vince Lombardi Trophy, the prize for the winners of the Super Bowl

SNOOKER

Hendry admits to loss of authority

By Phil Yates

THERE was no attempt at feeble excuses, no papering over the cracks or denying the existence of a malady that has plagued him for some time. Stephen Hendry indulged in honest self-analysis after losing in the Welsh Open final on Sunday.

"Some of my mistakes towards the end were just pathetic," Hendry said, after squandering a gilt-edged opportunity to end a spell of nearly two years — extending back to the International Open of February 1997 — during which he has not won a tournament on home soil.

Hendry was beaten 9-8 by Mark Williams at the Cardiff International Arena in a match he could and should have won. It left the Scot thoroughly dejected and pessimistic about his playing future. Hendry, who enjoyed a two-frame cushion on four occasions, committed a number of key errors, but the focus of his post mortem was missing the last red to a middle pocket in the deciding frame, with the colours at his mercy.

"I never used to miss match ball. Now it happens a lot," he said. "I watched Steve Davis when his domination started to fade and that began with him missing simple ones when it mattered. The same thing is happening to me."

This evaporation of Hendry's killer instinct became noticeable when Williams recovered from a 9-6 deficit to defeat him 10-9 on a respotted black in the Benson and Hedges Masters final last year.

Williams collected £60,000 and thus moved to the top of the prize-money list this season, with £165,225. Having also won the Irish Open in December, he boasts an 11-match unbeaten record and will defend his Masters title with an abundance of confidence. In contrast, Hendry's bruised ego could require longer than a week to heal.

SKIING

Austrian has title within grasp

From Graham Duffill in Vail, Colorado

ALEXANDRA Meissnitzer almost has it all within her grasp. The 25-year-old Austrian is often referred to as the women's team equivalent of Hermann Maier. Strong and determined, she shares the single-minded will to win of Maier.

As a result of her victories in downhill, giant slalom and super-giant slalom this season, Meissnitzer is leading the International Ski Federation rankings and is being billed as the woman to beat in the world championships over the next fortnight here. That rating was being put to the test in the super-giant slalom last night.

Meissnitzer commands great respect not just for her victories but because the most celebrated skier is the all-rounder. Her statistics are impressive. She has had four top-six downhill finishes this year, to add to her victory at Veysonnaz, super-giant victories at Lake Louise and Val d'Isère and has never been ranked lower than No 9 in the world. Her strongest suit is the giant slalom, in which she has won three times this season.

"I know that I'm in really good shape and my skiing is getting stronger," she said. "I know that I can be on the podium every time. I'm a pretty ambitious person."

Although they share geography in common, it is too early for Meissnitzer to start having ambitions of pursuing the record set by Anne Marie Moser-Proll, her fellow Salzburg skier. Moser-Proll won six women's world championships, five in succession, between 1971 and 1975.

In Vail, Meissnitzer wakes up to headlines pronouncing her to be the favourite. "Sure, the pressure is getting bigger and bigger because everybody is asking me about my success, but I think I can handle the pressure," she said.

RACING: TRAINER RECOGNISES THREAT TO TEETON MILL

Williams sees danger in Double Thriller

BY CHRIS MCGRATH

EVEN the most gullible of punters grows wary of taking the formbook literally. On the other hand there are times when everything they need to know can be found there in black and white. Certainly, Venetia Williams is far too clever a trainer to be too clever by half, and yesterday she warned Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup punters that the writing could be on the wall for the favourite, Teeton Mill.

The grey has made such giant strides since joining her stable, running away with the King George VI Chase on his latest start, that his only defeat under Rules, just days after his arrival, has generally been eliminated from calculations. Suddenly, however, the hunter chase in which he was beaten by Double Thriller at Cheltenham last spring is being treated as potentially decisive evidence.

Yesterday Williams confessed that the most alarming experience of her stay in Meribel last week was not a precipitous black run but watching satellite coverage of Double Thriller's debut for Paul Nicholls at Wincanton on Thursday. "I was impressed," she said at Plumpton, where Wilmott's Fancy became the 41st winner of her marvellous season. "We have to fear him, because he beat Teeton Mill fair and square at Cheltenham and I'd say he has the potential for improvement. He'd had only one run previously, whereas Teeton Mill had run in several hunter chases."

JULIAN HERBERT / ALLSPORT



Double Thriller impressed trainers with his Wincanton victory

Miss Williams dismissed any lingering anxieties about the amount of work her horse had recently missed with a reported foot problem. "I rode him myself, three times up, this morning," she said. "He's likely to run over two and a half miles at Ascot before Cheltenham, on February 20." She did not, however, rule out the possibility that he would go straight to the Festival.

Florida Pearl, his rival for favouritism, has his final trial in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown on Sunday, when he resumes last year's Cheltenham hostilities with Escartefigue. Willie Mullins, his trainer, is another fascinated student of Teeton Mill's encounter with Double Thriller. He hopes that there is more than just the colour of their coats to link Teeton Mill with One Man, who froze on the hill in the Gold Cup after showing his brilliance in precisely the same races as Teeton Mill on flat tracks. Teeton Mill certainly seemed to falter off the bridle that day, as Double Thriller galloped up the hill.

"I thought he appeared to be going to the last very well in that hunter chase and didn't see out the trip up the hill," Mullins said. "If there's a flaw in Teeton Mill's make-up, I hope it's round Cheltenham. We've won round there with 12 stone. Florida Pearl has shown both that he can stay and he has plenty of boot."

□ There is a 9.15am inspection at Leicester today to assess prospects for the meeting tomorrow. The hurdles course is waterlogged.

TAUNTON

THUNDERER

1.40 Salamah. 2.10 John Bush. 2.40 Nordic Breeze. 3.10 North Tyne. 3.40 Storm Castle. 4.10 Ragamuff. 4.40 Fancy Nancy.

GOING: SOFT SIS

1.40 IDEAL WEDDING RECEPTION NOVICES HURDLE (£2,320: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

1 -122 EXPLAIN THIS 36 (G) C Mann 7-11-9 ... J Magee [illegible]
2 13 SALAMAH 45 (BF,S) C Egerton 5-11-9 ... J Osborne 110
3 DOUBLE RUSH 103F T Keddy 7-11-3 ... J Goldstein (5) –
4 30 MISTRATO 12 P Wegmann 5-11-3 ... D Matthews 22
5 5 RICCARTON 12 J Bradley 6-11-3 ... R Johnson 51
6 P STATE FAIR 31 G Ham 5-11-3 ... S Burrough –
7 000- GLENDRONACH 627 J Bradley 7-10-12 ... H Oliver (5) –
8 4F RISE ABOVE 171 Miss K George 5-10-12 ... R Massey –
9 60 TOASTED 62 Miss E Lavelle 7-10-12 ... B Fenton 53
10 1 FLUSH 24 (S) M Pipe 4-10-8 ... A P McCoy 106
11 ABUSAMRAH 18F A T Murphy 4-10-7 ... T J Murphy –
12 AHERNE 234F B Palling 4-10-7 ... W Marston –
13 32 FATHER KRISMAS 12 (BF) P Nicholls 4-10-7 ... J Tizzard 110
14 P HILLSIDE ROSE 7 R Frost 4-10-2 ... J Frost –

10-11 Salamah, 5-2 Explain This, 9-2 Flush, 10-1 Father Krismas, 12-1 others.

2.10 TAUNTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,309: 2m 3f 110yd) (12)

1 5412 JOHN BUSH 15 (D,F,G) P Eccles 5-11-10 ... D Byrne [illegible]
2 3-35 MEDIUM WAVE 82 S Sherwood 7-11-9 ... Mr N Fehily (7) 53
3 -1P0 RASH REFLECTION 20 (B,G) C Weedon 7-11-7 ... Mr R Forristal (5) –
4 050- CARLYS QUEST 87F (V) J Neville 5-11-7 ... A P McCoy 47
5 -26P LETTYFAK 45 (B) I Williams 5-11-1 ... R Johnson 54
6 U213 LIZZYS FIRST 38 (BF,S) B Millman 7-10-13 ... M A Fitzgerald 94
7 1U63 GOLDEN LILY 19 (F,S) R Hodges 5-10-9 ... R Thornton 87
8 200 NAKHAL 35 N Ayliffe 6-10-8 ... L Cummins (3) 35
9 0000 KARADENI 13 (B) R Hollinshead 5-10-0 ... Gary Lyons 59
10 0006 LIME STREET BLUES 33 T Keddy 8-10-0 ... J Goldstein (5) 87
11 -60F GURU RINPOCHE 61 R Frost 7-10-0 ... J Frost –
12 P451 UP THE TEMPO 170 (F) P Farrell 10-10-0 ... S Kelly (5) 88

3-1 Lizzys First, 4-1 John Bush, 9-2 Medium Wave, 7-1 Carlys Quest, 8-1 others.

2.40 RACECOURSE CHASE (£3,737: 2m 3f) (14)

1 1311 NATIVE FLING 32 (S) P Hobbs 7-12-1 ... R Dunwoody [illegible]
2 P0 ACCESS FESTIVALS 12 R Frost 9-11-3 ... J Frost –
3 0FP3 BOULEVARD BAY 32 (B) Mrs P Robeson 8-11-3 ... M Richards 59
4 0544 DUNNICKS TOWN 32 F Tucker 7-11-3 ... S Burrough 17
5 F252 GORMAN 62 Miss H Knight 7-11-3 ... M A Fitzgerald 47
6 630 LANGLEEFORD 15 (B) E L James 7-11-3 ... J R Kavanagh –
7 00-4 NORDIC BREEZE 87 (F,S) M Pipe 7-11-3 ... A P McCoy –
8 -3P5 NORTH KILKENNY 60 (S) R Alner 8-11-3 ... R Widger (5) 87
9 P0FP ROYAL SWEEP 12 Dr P Pritchard 10-11-3 ... Dr P Pritchard –
10 4-45 SIBERIAN HENRY 7 (S) B Smart 6-11-3 ... C Llewellyn 64
11 00-0 SILVER GULL 47 H Howe 8-11-3 ... T J Murphy –
12 4-40 WILLIE WALLACE 42 O O'Neill 7-11-3 ... H Oliver (5) –
13 0'00 AMBER RING 82 Miss K George 6-10-12 ... R Massey –
14 042U ORIENTAL STYLE 22 (V) G Balding 5-10-7 ... B Fenton –

5-4 Native Fling, 5-1 Gorman, 6-1 Nordic Breeze, 7-1 North Kilkenny, 8-1 others.

3.10 STAPLEMEAD SEMINAR SUITE MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,644: 3m 110yd) (12)

1 0 CASA FINA 33 M Pipe 6-11-5 ... G Supple (3) –
2 3/63 EZANAK 24 Miss H Knight 6-11-5 ... J Culloty 72
3 0-0P GOLD DROP 25 M Mullineaux 5-11-5 ... Gary Lyons –
4 6253 IVORY COASTER 27 (B) B De Haan 8-11-5 ... R Johnson 85
5 0/3 JAZZ DUKE 33 M J Weeden 6-11-5 ... G Shenkin (5) 74
6 UP2- JUNGLE KING 304 A J Wilson 10-11-5 ... R Greene 77
7 4-55 KAZ KALEM 34 P Hobbs 7-11-5 ... R Dunwoody 79
8 00-P NORMANTHESTRAWMAN 90 P Shakespeare 6-11-5 ... L Harvey –
9 2-20 NORTH TYNE 61 (BF,F) R Alner 5-11-5 ... A P McCoy [illegible]
10 0-63 ELLIEWELLIEWOO 54 P R Webber 8-11-0 ... J Osborne 55
11 0 EXMOOR FOREST 74 Mrs C Hicks 5-11-0 ... M Keighley (7) –
12 5-65 SPARKLING BUCK 47 N Ayliffe 7-11-0 ... L Cummins (3) 65

6-4 Ezanak, 5-1 North Tyne, 6-1 Ivory Coaster, 7-1 Kaz Kalem, 8-1 Casa Fina, 10-1 Elliewelliewoo, 12-1 Jungle King, 14-1 others.

3.40 STAPLEMEAD SEMINAR SUITE MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £2,644: 3m 110yd) (12)

1 5 BALLYMALOE BOY 84 M Pipe 6-11-5 ... A P McCoy –
2 UPR0 CHARLIESMEDARLIN 54 (G) Mrs B Waring 8-11-5 ... E Byrne –
3 -560 FRED FUGGLES 76 C Jackson 7-11-5 ... O Burrows (5) 59
4 00 LABULA BAY 22 C Popham 5-11-5 ... O McPhail (5) –
5 65/ LONGSTONE LAD 675 G Edwards 7-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald –
6 PF/P LOYAL GAIT 62 (D,F) A J Wilson 11-11-5 ... R Greene –
7 -450 MASTER RASTUS 69 Mrs S Williams 6-11-5 ... W Marston 63
8 P-20 SHADED 35 D Minty 5-11-5 ... L Aspell 72
9 41-2 STORM CASTLE 36 (D,S) D Arbuthnot 7-11-5 ... D Gallagher [illegible]
10 P0/0 PANTO QUEEN 35 J King 8-11-0 ... L Cummins (3) –
11 123- PENNYWISE 334 (G) Miss V Williams 6-11-0 ... S Kelly (5) –
12 ROSSALEEN Miss H Day 8-11-0 ... M Foster –

7-4 Pennywise, 2-1 Storm Castle, 5-1 Ballymaloe Boy, Master Rastus, 10-1 Shaded, 25-1 Charliesmedarlin, Fred Fuggles, 33-1 others.

4.10 SADDLE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,631: 3m) (9)

1 4411 INFLUENCE PEDLER 60 (G) Miss George 6-11-10 ... R Massey 93
2 -U35 AMBLESIDE 79 (C,G,S) Mrs S Williams 8-11-7 ... C Llewellyn [illegible]
3 22F1 THE COCKERTOO 19 (D,G,S) R Alner 8-10-12 ... A P McCoy 103
4 33U3 KOO'S PROMISE 19 (F,G) C Popham 8-10-6 ... R Farrant 113
5 004F AMERICANVAL 35 (S) S Mellor 11-10-6 ... C Webb 27
6 P122 RAGAMUFF 15 (S) P Hobbs 8-10-1 ... C Maude 81
7 32/4 CRACKING PROSPECT 54 (B) B Millman 8-10-0 ... R Thornton 104
8 P64- COUNTRY STORE 295 (S) M Pipe 10-10-0 ... R Johnson –
9 2-01 WOT NO GIN 117 (F) A J Wilson 10-10-0 ... S Kelly (5) 109

6-4 The Cockertoo, 9-2 Influence Pedler, 6-1 Ambleside, Ragamuff, 10-1 Koo's Promise, 14-1 Cracking Prospect, 16-1 Americanval, Country Store, Wot No Gin.

4.40 WEDDING LICENCE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,246: 3m 110yd) (12)

1 1/46 PALOSANTO 32 (B,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 9-12-0 ... A P McCoy –
2 P/44 GOLDEN ARROW 102F (G,S) M Pipe 8-11-7 ... R Greene 104
3 13P- APACHEE FLOWER 543 (D,S) H Howe 9-10-8 ... M A Fitzgerald –
4 -552 NORLANDIC 20 (BF) P Hobbs 7-10-2 ... R Widger (5) 105
5 63-R DARU 13 (S) R Hollinshead 10-10-2 ... Gary Lyons 97
6 -151 WHITEBONNET 32 (B,G,S) C Jackson 9-10-2 ... Miss S Jackson [illegible]
7 0P-P GENTLEMAN JIM 32 (G) N Hawke 9-10-0 ... C Maude –
8 2530 THE MINDER 47 (B,C,G,S) G Edwards 12-10-0 ... R Johnson 86
9 F-36 FANCY NANCY 12 (S) Miss C Johnsey 8-10-0 ... W Marston 74
10 6613 SPIRIT LEVEL 32 (BF,S) J R Payne 11-10-0 ... Mr D O'Meara (7) 105
11 P-03 MISTER GENEROSITY 7 (G) C Weedon 8-10-0 ... J Goldstein (5) 92
12 -PF0 ONE MORE DIME 12 (F) J R Hughes 9-10-0 ... B Fenton 74

11-4 Norlandic, 3-1 Golden Arrow, 13-2 Palosanto, 7-1 Whitebonnet, 10-1 The Minder, 12-1 Daru, Fancy Nancy, 16-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.20 Kafil. 1.50 Grooms Gold. 2.20 Ertlon. 2.50 Light Breeze. 3.20 Wild Thing. 3.50 Mukarrab. 4.20 Half Tide.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW BEST SIS

1.20 PEACH AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div I: £2,221: 1m) (9 runners)

1 2611 TAKHLID 7 (C,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 8-12-6 (5ex) ... Miss R Clark 1
2 020- RODERICK HUDSON 59 (F) J R Poulton 7-11-2 ... T Best (7) 3
3 0-20 FOREST ROBIN 4 (F) Mrs Stubbs 6-10-13 ... Mrs N Lockwood (7) 8
4 45-0 JUBILEE SCHOLAR 32 (B) G L Moore 6-10-13 ... J Mongan (3) 4
5 00-6 KAFIL 28 (CD) J Bridger 5-10-9 ... Miss R Illman (5) 2
6 560- DENSBRAE 112 (F,G) J Pearce 7-10-5 ... Mrs L Pearce 6
7 -124 TOM 15 (V,D) C Fairhurst 4-10-0 ... Mrs S Bosley 7
8 01-6 HI MUJTAHID 10 (D,F) Mrs H Walton 5-9-11 ... A Walton (5) 9
9 00-0 DREAM CARRIER 18 (B,G) R Peacock 11-9-10 ... Mrs C Peacock (5) 5

2-1 Takhlid, 4-1 Forest Robin, 5-1 Jubilee Scholar, 7-1 Kafil, 8-1 Tom, 10-1 Densbrae, Hi Mujtahid, 16-1 others.

1.50 PEACH AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div II: £2,221: 1m) (9)

1 0-03 REDOUBTABLE 15 (C,F,G,S) D Chapman 8-12-0 ... Miss R Clark 3
2 10-5 WAIKIKI BEACH 10 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 8-11-3 ... Mrs J Moore 2
3 00-2 WITHOUT FRIENDS 10 (CD,F,) Miss G Kelleway 5-11-0 ... A Irvine (5) 1
4 040- GADGE 57 (BF,CD,F,G,S) A Bailey 8-10-13 ... Miss V Cottrill (7) 9
5 0-43 GROOMS GOLD 5 (F) J Pearce 7-10-10 ... Mrs L Pearce 8
6 400- FIGAWIN 136J Mrs H Walton 4-10-5 ... A Walton (5) 5
7 0-00 GREEN JACKET 5 (B) R O'Sullivan 4-10-2 ... Miss B Fisher (7) 4
8 0-0 MELOMANIA 90J P Howling 7-9-12 ... Miss C Haddow (7) 6
9 0-00 SARUM 5 (E,CD,F) J Long 13-9-10 ... T Waters (7) 7

5-2 Gadge, 7-2 Grooms Gold, 9-2 Redoubtable, 11-2 Without Friends, 6-1 Waikiki Beach, 10-1 Figawin, 20-1 Green Jacket, 25-1 others.

2.20 BRING YOUR GOLF SOCIETY TO LINGFIELD PARK CLAIMING STAKES (£2,659: 1m 2f) (9)

1 3-53 NIGHT CITY 19 (BF,C,D,F,G,S) K Burke 8-9-12 ... P Doe (5) 8
2 05-4 ORSAY 14 (D,F,G,S) W Muir 7-9-12 ... Martin Dwyer 1
3 -111 JAVA SHRINE 10 (B,CD,F,G) A Reid 8-9-0 ... N Pollard (3) 7
4 4-33 ERTLON 10 (C,F,G) C Brittain 9-8-12 ... N Esler (7) 2
5 0-20 KEY TO THE CITY 10 (BF,D,S) P Eccles 5-8-8 ... S Carson (7) 5
6 800- DELLUA 99 (D,F) J Hills 5-8-7 ... Dane O'Neill 4
7 300- SOVIET LADY 103 (G) R Ingram 5-8-7 ... A Clark 6
8 4-53 MR ROUGH 12 (B,F,S) D Morris 8-8-5 ... N Day 3
9 800- RIVAL BID 137J (G) Mrs N Macauley 11-8-2 ... Amanda Sanders 9

6-4 Java Shrine, 11-4 Night City, 9-2 Ertlon, 7-1 Key To The City, 16-1 others.

2.50 DAMSON STAKES (3-Y-O: £1,801: 6f) (5)

1 33-2 LADY CARBRON 13 J Berry 9-0 ... P Bradley (7) 5
2 60-1 WESTSIDE FLYER 22 (D) A Kelleway 9-0 ... D Sweeney 1
3 00 HELEN'S WEDDING 10 J Berry 8-7 ... Iona Wands (5) 3
4 05-3 LIGHT BREEZE 73 G L Moore 8-7 ... R Brisland (7) 4
5 4420 RIDDLE 14 (B) P Evans 8-7 ... T G McLaughlin 2

6-4 Westside Flyer, 9-4 Lady Carbron, 7-2 Light Breeze, 8-1 others.

3.20 LINGFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (£3,572: 1m) (7)

1 /0-0 DIBOLA 18 J Wainwright 4-9-12 ... J McAuley (7) 5
2 000- IMPELLING 209 K Burke 4-9-12 ... N Callan (5) 1
3 8-24 WAITING KNIGHT 6 (V,BF) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-12 ... P McCabe 4
4 00-6 LUCKY NEMO 10 C Brittain 3-8-7 ... T Sprake 6
5 06-4 SWAMPY 5 N Callaghan 3-8-7 ... Dean McKeown 3
6 40-2 WILD THING 26 R Hannon 3-8-7 ... Dane O'Neill 2
7 685 VEGAS 10 J S Moore 3-8-2 ... J Quinn 7

6-4 Waiting Knight, 5-2 Wild Thing, 6-1 Swampy, 8-1 Lucky Nemo, 10-1 others.

3.50 GREENGAGE HANDICAP (£3,589: 6f) (8)

1 5-03 ROBO MAGIC 12 (CD,F) L Montague Hall 7-9-10 ... W Ryan 6
2 -131 MUKARRAB 19 (CD,G) D Chapman 5-9-7 ... A Culhane 4
3 414- ADIFE 43 (CD) G Wragg 4-9-7 ... A Clark 8
4 -221 ANOKATO 17 (V,CD,F) Mrs N Macauley 5-9-5 ... Dean McKeown 7
5 6004 SCISSOR RIDGE 3 (CD,F) J Bridger 7-8-11 ... R Brisland (7) 2
6 00-0 SHARP PEARL 12 (B,F) D Cosgrove 6-8-7 ... S Whitworth 1
7 3465 FRIENDLY BRAVE 10 (B,C,D,F,S) Miss G Kelleway 9-8-0 ... Martin Dwyer 3
8 6602 IVORY'S GRAB HIRE 7 (B,C,D,F,G) K Ivory 6-7-10 ... C Catlin (7) 5

7-4 Adife, 7-2 Mukarrab, 9-2 Anokato, 7-1 Robo Magic, 10-1 others.

4.20 CHERRY HANDICAP (£2,621: 1m 4f) (11)

1 1323 MYSTAGOGUE 14 (CD) R Hannon 4-9-11 ... P Dobbs (7) 4
2 10-2 HAYDN JAMES 12 (F) P Harris 5-9-8 ... A Culhane 10
3 665/ HERE'S TO HOWIE 171J (F) M Bosley 5-8-4 ... D Sweeney 11
4 6-34 TRIBAL PEACE 10 (C,F,S) B Gubby 7-9-3 ... J Quinn 8
5 2-22 HALF TIDE 26 (BF) P Mitchell 5-8-11 ... R Cochrane 5
6 -325 SAMMY'S SHUFFLE 12 (B,C,G) R Flower 4-8-10 ... Dane O'Neill 9
7 00-0 LUCKY MYST 22 C Brittain 4-8-5 ... T Sprake 6
8 -223 HARVEY WHITE 12 (F,G,S) J Pearce 7-8-3 ... A Polli (3) 3
9 00-6 HURGILL DANCER 26 (D,G) R O'Sullivan 5-8-1 ... N Carlisle 2
10 00-0 SUPER-GEM 12 J Wainwright 4-7-10 ... G Bardwell 1
11 00/4 BIGWIG 19 (B) G L Moore 6-7-10 ... R Brisland (7) 7

5-2 Half Tide, 9-2 Sammy's Shuffle, 6-1 Mystagogue, Harvey White, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TAUNTON: TRAINERS: Miss V Williams, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40.0%; J Neville, 5 from 19, 26.3%; P Hobbs, 22 from 98, 22.4%; M Pipe, 38 from 191, 19.9%; C Egerton, 3 from 16, 18.8%; Miss H Knight, 5 from 31, 16.1%; Mrs S Williams, 3 from 22, 13.6%; G Edwards, 4 from 30, 13.3%; P Nicholls, 10 from 82, 12.2%; R Hodges, 17 from 140, 12.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Magee, 3 winners from 13 rides, 23.1%; M Fitzgerald, 13 from 62, 21.0%; A McCoy, 23 from 122, 18.9%; J Culloty, 5 from 27, 18.5%; T J Murphy, 6 from 35, 17.1%; C Maude, 13 from 77, 16.9%; C Llewellyn, 6 from 39, 15.4%; B Fenton, 7 from 46, 15.2%.

LINGFIELD PARK: TRAINERS: G Wragg, 10 winners from 40 runners, 25.0%; J Berry, 27 from 133, 20.3%; D Chapman, 19 from 107, 17.8%; P Eccles, 3 from 18, 16.7%; P Harris, 13 from 84, 15.5%; J Hills, 16 from 110, 14.5%; Miss G Kelleway, 44 from 309, 14.2%; C Brittain, 24 from 174, 13.8%; R Ingram, 30 from 223, 13.5%; L Montague Hall 17 from 128, 13.3%.

JOCKEYS: P Dobbs, 8 winners from 36 rides, 22.2%; N Pollard, 11 from 63, 17.5%; D McKeown, 27 from 156, 17.3%; S Bosley, 3 from 18, 16.7%; W Ryan, 42 from 260, 16.2%; A Culhane, 17 from 106, 16.0%; R Cochrane, 53 from 341, 15.5%; D Sweeney, 24 from 167, 14.4%.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Plumpton

Going: soft, heavy in places

2.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, **Wilmott's Fancy** (R Thornton, 4-11 fav); 2, Red Bordeaux (15-2); 3, Balla d'Aire (50-1). 9 ran. NR: Rheinbold. 10l, 4l. Miss Venetia Williams. Tote: £1.20; £1.00, £1.90, £8.70. DF: £2.30. CSF: £3.84.

2.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, **Rollcall** (R Widger, 3-1 fav; **Richard Evans's nap**); 2, South West Express (5-1); 3, The Ten Amigos (4-1). 8 ran. NR: Hightown Cavalier. 22l, sh hd. R Alner. Tote: £3.40; £1.30, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £11.10. CSF: £15.88. Tricast: £50.57.

3.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1, **Advance East** (O McPhail, 6-1); 2, Tylo Steamer (6-1); 3, Happy Minstral (5-1). Sprint Up 5-2 fav. 7 ran. 2½l, 9l. C Popham. Tote: £7.30; £3.60, £2.80. DF: £23.70. CSF: £36.34.

3.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, **Regal Aura** (W Marston, 7-1); 2, Luke Warm (7-4); 3, Indian Run (6-4 fav). 4 ran. NR: Scavo. 2l, 24l. D O'Brien. Tote: £9.10. DF: £6.20. CSF: £17.72.

4.00 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, **Military Academy** (A P McCoy, 8-11 fav); 2, Mr Miller (3-1); 3, Glacial King (12-1). 5 ran. 26l, dist. Ian Williams. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.90. DF: £2.10. CSF: £3.14.

4.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1, **Doctor Bravious** (E Byrne, 16-1); 2, Studio Thirty (7-1); 3, Derisbay (10-1). Tickerty's Gift (4th) 7-4 fav. 7 ran. 5l, 5l. Jamie Poulton. Tote: £16.30; £3.20, £4.50. DF: £27.60. CSF: £99.81.

Placepot: £845.90. Quadpot: £162.30.

Ayr

Going: soft, heavy in places

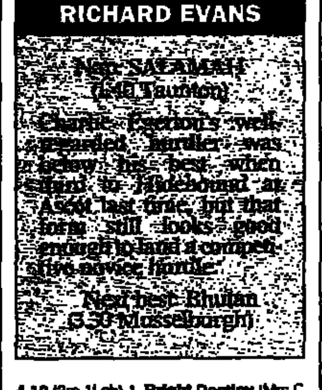
2.10 (2m hdle) 1, **Lindajane** (I Jardine, 5-1); 2, Red Hot Indian (4-7 fav); 3, Chocolate Drum (20-1). 6 ran. 2½l, 10l. D Whillans. Tote: £3.50; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £1.80. CSF: £7.63.

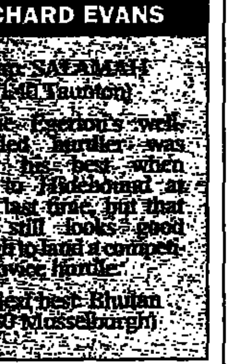
2.40 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, **Mr Frangipani** (A Dobbin, 7-2); 2, Mike Stan (evens fav); 3, Emperor's Magic (8-1). 6 ran. 2l, dist. N Richards. Tote: £4.90; £1.90, £1.30. DF: £3.60. CSF: £6.88.

3.10 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, **Hugo de Grez** (B Storey, 16-1); 2, Just An Excuse (2-1 fav); 3, Radmore Saxon (9-2). 11 ran. ½l, 4l. C Parker. Tote: £21.20; £7.10, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £25.70. CSF: £44.45.

3.40 (3m 4f hdle) 1, **Robbo** (Mr A Dempsey, 7-4); 2, The Next Waltz (13-8 fav). 4 ran. 26l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £4.27.

RICHARD EVANS





Nap: SALAMAH (1.40 Taunton)

Charlie Egerton's well-regarded hurdler was below his best when third to Hidebound at Ascot last time, but that form still looks good enough to land a competitive novice hurdle.

Next best: Bhutan (3.30 Musselburgh)

4.10 (3m 1f ch) 1, **Bright Destiny** (Mrs C Ford, 7-1); 2, Plumbob (6-1); 3, Hag's Way (6-1). Ivy House (4th) 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 2½l, 23l. J Goldie. Tote: £6.40; £2.20, £1.60, £2.10. DF: £24.40. CSF: £40.53. Tricast: £225.59.

4.40 (2m flat) 1, **Ballet-K** (Mr R Fornstal, 1-4 fav); 2, Early Daisy (3-1); 3, Dissington Me (20-1). 3 ran. 1l, 19l. J Neville. Tote: £1.20. DF: £1.10. CSF: £1.29.

Placepot: £33.10. Quadpot: £25.50.

Southwell

Going: standard

12.50 (7f) 1, **Storm Cat** (Dane O'Neill, 13-8); 2, Freedom Quest (6-4 fav); 3, Manana (20-1). 9 ran. 6l, 4l. K McAuliffe. Tote: £2.70; £1.10, £1.50, £3.70. DF: £1.80. CSF: £3.47.

1.20 (2m) 1, **Quezon City** (L Charnock, 33-1); 2, Mudlark (8-1); 3, Musalse (5-2 fav). 9 ran. 6l, nk. Miss J Camacho. Tote: £30.30; £4.60, £2.00, £1.20. DF: £106.50. CSF: £245.60. Tricast: £831.23.

1.50 (7f) 1, **Mai Tai** (A Clark, 10-3); 2, Miss All Alone (4-7 fav); 3, Parte Prima (25-1). 9 ran. 2l, sh hd. D Barker. Tote: £5.70; £1.40, £1.00, £4.90. DF: £1.80. CSF: £5.00.

2.20 (6f) 1, **Cool Secret** (A Culhane, 16-1); 2, Mallia (13-8); 3, Palacegate Touch (6-4 fav). 9 ran. NR: Sue Me. Hd, ¾l. K Ryan. Tote: £21.80; £3.60, £1.10, £1.10. DF: £17.10. CSF: £40.21.

2.50 (6f) 1, **Baritone** (R Winston, 8-1); 2, Little Ibnr (14-1); 3, Unshaken (11-1). Grand Chapeau 7-4 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, 1½l. S Kettlewell. Tote: £9.30; £2.10, £2.00, £5.70. DF: £28.70. CSF: £106.01. Tricast: £1,149.88.

3.20 (2m) 1, **Pipe Music** (P Goode, 10-3); 2, Spa Lane (5-2 fav); 3, Old Hush Wing (4-1). 7 ran. NR: Shuttlecock. ½l, ½l. P Haslam. Tote: £4.50; £2.40, £1.80. DF: £6.30. CSF: £11.32. Tricast: £30.58.

3.50 (1m) 1, **Bamboo Garden** (M Tebbutt, 12-1); 2, Fourth Time Lucky (9-1); 3, Sharp Rhythm (4-1 jt-fav). Billicheng (4th) 4-1 jt-fav. 14 ran. 2½l, ½l. G Chung. Tote: £17.90; £4.50, £3.60, £2.20. DF: £152.50. CSF: £117.20. Tricast: £498.85.

4.20 (1m) 1, **The Barnsley Belle** (F Norton, 8-11); 2, Rouge (25-1); 3, Moonlight Flit (9-1). Oxbane 2-1 fav. 15 ran. NR: Lilania. Hd, ½l. G Woodward. Tote: £11.10; £2.40, £8.40, £3.30. DF: £126.60. Tote Trifecta: £2,775.60 - part won (pool of £2,345.61 carried forward to Musselburgh 3.30 today). CSF: £193.26. Tricast: £1,697.54.

Jackpot: not won (£13,669.22 carried forward to Musselburgh today).

Placepot: £61.20. Quadpot: £17.70.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER

1.30 Es Go
2.00 Gunner Marc
2.30 BALLAD MINSTREL (nap)
3.00 Any Port
3.30 Bhutan
4.00 Niki Dee
4.30 My Shenandoah

Timekeeper's top rating: 4.00 DOUBLE AGENT.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

1.30 DOLLAR NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,056: 2m) (9 runners)

101 23/312 ES GO 18 (D,S) (P Beaton-Brown) R Bastiman 6-11-10 ... H Bastiman (3) [illegible]
102 22UU20 MADGE MCSPLASH 123 (BF,D,S) (Mr & Mrs J Davenport) J Jefferson 7-11-5 ... L Wyer 72
103 05 ALBERT THE BEAR 33 (C & A Dauters) J Berry 6-11-3 ... B Powell 44
104 0 GWESPYR 18 (Wetherby Racing Bureau Ltd) Miss K Milligan 6-11-3 ... F Leahy –
105 000-0P REGAR 52 (Mrs B Kearney) I Ferguson (Ire) 7-11-3 ... A Dobbin –
106 0003-6 SAYONARA 219 (Mrs S Johnson) J Howard Johnson 6-11-3 ... D Parker –
107 TWO POOLS (Andrew Gorton) M Todhunter 6-11-3 ... B Harding –
108 0-0436 LEAD DANCER 10 (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 7-10-12 ... T P Treacy –
109 0 ARCTIC STAR 18 (Mrs V Thompson) V Thompson 4-10-7 ... Mr M Thompson –

BETTING: 4-6 Es Go, 5-1 Madge McSplash, 6-1 Albert The Bear, 10-1 Lead Dancer, 14-1 Two Pools, 25-1 Sayonara, Arctic Star, 33-1 others.

1998: HDH EXPRESS 6-11-3 A P McCoy (5-2 jt fav) Mrs J Ramsden 15 ran

FORM FOCUS: Es Go 22l 2nd of 12 to Running Man in novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft) with Arctic Star (2lb worse off) 97l 7th, previously beat Altawa 6l in 14-runner maiden hurdle at Catterick (2m, good) with Albert The Bear (7lb better off) 24l 5th. Madge McSplash 32l 7th of 9 to Parish in handicap chase at Hexham (2m 110yd, good), previously 3l 2nd of 6 to Damza in novice chase at Perth (2m, good). Gwespyr 49l 8th of 11 to Fineswood in novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft). Regar pulled up in maiden hurdle at Navan (2m 2l, heavy), previously beaten a distance 22nd of 28 to Grange Leader in national hunt flat race at Navan (2m, soft). Sayonara beaten a distance 6th of 11 to Grecian Dart in maiden hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good), previously beaten a distance last of 3 to Branch End in novice hurdle at Hexham (2m 4l 110yd, firm). Lead Dancer beaten a distance 6th of 28 to Budelus in maiden national hunt flat at Punchestown (2m, soft), previously 3l 3rd of 15 to Wyn Wan Soon in national hunt flat race at Tramore (2m, heavy).

ES GO caught a tartar in Running Man last time but meets nothing of the winner's calibre here

2.00 DOLLAR NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,056: 2m) (9 runners)

201 33F15 FINISTERRE 11 (CD,G) (Les Femmes Fatales) J J O'Neill 6-11-10 ... R McGrath [illegible]
202 0/ CELESTIAL KEY 73F (BF) (Markus Graff) M Johnston 9-11-3 ... A Maguire –
203 54/F60 MAJOR HAGE 32 (J Henderson (Co Durham)) J Howard Johnson 8-11-3 ... A S Smith 49
204 5 PERSIAN FAYRE 18 (M Grubb) J Berry 7-11-3 ... B Powell 30
205 P0 SCHILLACHI 18 (N Harrison) R Bastiman 11-11-3 ... H Bastiman (3) –
206 P-S5 SIBMISTER 18 (Mr & Mrs R Green) C Parker 7-11-3 ... B Storey –
207 0-P DIE HARD LADY 38 (Die-Hard Racing Club) Mrs D Thomson 8-10-12 ... S Taylor –
208 40 GUNNER MARC 115 (Masons Arms Racing Club) J Jefferson 5-10-12 ... L Wyer –
209 3P CURRICULUS 80 (Mrs D Miller) M Todhunter 4-10-7 ... C McCormack (3) 25

BETTING: 5-4 Finisterre, 11-4 Celestial Key, 5-1 Persian Fayre, 8-1 Curriculus, 12-1 Gunner Marc, 14-1 Major Hage, 33-1 Sibmister, 50-1 others.

1998: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS: Finisterre beaten a distance 5th of 9 to Crazy Horse in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, heavy), previously beat Fores Tall 1½l in 14-runner maiden hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good). Celestial Key 28l 8th of 22 to Our Robert in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to soft). Major Hage beaten a distance 8th of 17 to Major Sponsor in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, good to soft), previously 28l 6th of 10 to Sikander A Azam in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). Persian Fayre 32l 5th of 11 to Fineswood in novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft) with Schillachi (levels) beaten a distance 10th. Sibmister 62l 5th of 12 to Running Man in novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft). Die Hard Lady pulled up in novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, heavy), previously 61l 7th of 11 to Twilight Sleep in maiden hurdle at Cartmel (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm). Gunner Marc 39l 11th of 18 to Alto in mares national hunt flat at Bangor (2m 1l, good), previously 14l 4th of 8 to Grimaldi Lad in national hunt flat race at Perth (2m 110yd, good). Curriculus pulled up in 3yo novice hurdle at Ayr (2m, good to soft), previously 21l 2nd of 7 to Ellerbeck in 3yo novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1l, good to firm).

Course-and-distance winner FINISTERRE holds sound claims in a weak-looking contest

2.30 SPOTT NOVICES CHASE (£2,788: 2m) (7 runners)

301 4-2212 BALLAD MINSTREL 38 (B,BF,D,G,S) (G Shiel) J FitzGerald 7-11-9 ... R Garritty [illegible]
302 133313 ROSSEL 18 (D,F,G,S) (A Melville) P Monteith 6-11-9 ... C McCormack (3) 105
303 -60364 FALCON'S FLAME 10 (V Thompson) V Thompson 6-11-2 ... Mr M Thompson 78
304 0/P-65 FOX SPARROW 18 (D,S) (Renton Oriental Rugs) B Mactaggart 9-11-2 ... B Storey 71
305 000060 NO ANIMOSITY 8F (B) (Langdale Racing Stables) W Kemp 6-11-2 ... B Powell –
306 00-030 ONYOUROWN 62 (D,F,S) (G Bean) J Howard Johnson 6-11-2 ... D Parker –
307 2-4221 BARNBURGH BOY 10 (D,S) (M Burke's 5th Family Settlement) T Easterby 5-11-0 ... L Wyer 113

BETTING: 5-4 Ballad Minstrel, 9-4 Barnburgh Boy, 7-2 Rossel, 14-1 Onyourown, 16-1 Falcon's Flame, 25-1 Fox Sparrow, 33-1 No Animosity.

1998: DR BONES 5-10-7 Mr O McPhail (11-10 fav) F Murphy 7 ran

FORM FOCUS: Ballad Minstrel 9l 2nd of 6 to Aghawadda Gold in novice chase at Wetherby (2m, good to soft), previously beat Radanpour 10l in 9-runner novice chase at Catterick (2m, soft) with Fox Sparrow (7lb better off) 44l 6th. No Animosity 75l 12th of 13 to Forty Love in selling handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft), previously 13l 6th of 9 to Oversman in selling hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good). Onyourown 33l 11th of 21 to Jessica One in handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m 3l, good to firm), previously 3½l 3rd of 5 to Woodfield Gale in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4l, good to soft). Barnburgh Boy beat Barker Count neck in 4-runner novice chase at Catterick (2m, soft) with Falcon's Flame (8lb better off) beaten a distance 4th.

BALLAD MINSTREL has taken well to chasing, running creditably in blinkers his last two starts

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Wins	Rnrs	%
J Berry	5	18	27.8	J P McNamara	5	9	55.6
J Jefferson	3	11	27.3	A Maguire	3	8	37.5
F Murphy	7	26	26.9	P Niven	12	66	18.2
J J O'Neill	4	18	22.2	A Dobbin	16	89	18.0
J FitzGerald	3	15	20.0	N Horrocks	3	17	17.6
J Howard Johnson	20	101	19.8	A S Smith	9	54	16.7

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 3.50 Anokato. **Taunton:** 2.10 Carlys Quest, Karadeni 2.40 Langleeford 3.10 Ivory Coaster. **Musselburgh:** 4.30 Prelude To Fame.

3.00 KILMANY CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,065: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

401 2-F545 MULKEV PRINCE 27 (BF,S) (W Black) J Howard Johnson 8-12-0 ... D Parker 80
402 -32102 BALLYLINE 61 (G,S) (49 Partnership) W Kemp 8-11-8 ... B Powell 114
403 101600 ANY PORT 78 (D,F,G,S) (J Lowry) A J Martin (Ire) 9-11-1 ... A Maguire 116
404 P-212F ADAMATIC 35 (C,F,G,S) (G Adam) R Allan 8-10-12 ... B Storey 116
405 5/P-P5 TIMBUCKTOO 50 (G,S) (Mrs P Gould) J Oliver 12-10-9 ... A Dobbin –
406 2-5U41 DANBYS GORSE 17 (B,D,S) (D Todd) J Jefferson 7-10-4 ... T Siddall (5) 112
407 5234-0 JACK YEATS 73 (G) (J Gordon) Miss K Milligan 7-10-2 ... F Leahy [illegible]
408 553351 SALEM BEACH 27 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs D Marshall) M Todhunter 7-10-1 ... C McCormack (3) 101

BETTING: 5-2 Danbys Gorse, 3-1 Ballyline, 9-2 Adamatic, 7-1 Any Port, Salem Beach, 10-1 Mulkev Prince, 12-1 Jack Yeats, 20-1 Timbucktoo.

1998: CHINA KING 7-10-6 P Carberry (6-4 fav) J FitzGerald 6 ran

FORM FOCUS: Mulkev Prince 23l 5th of 6 to Jupiter in handicap chase at Musselburgh (2m, good), previously 36l 4th of 5 to Get Real in handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft). Ballyline 12l 2nd of 4 to Capenwray in handicap chase at Leicester (2m 4l 110yd, good), previously 44l last of 9 to Forestal in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4l 110yd, good). Any Port 18l 7th of 13 to Capenwray in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4l 110yd, good). Adamatic fell in handicap chase at Musselburgh (3m, good to firm), previously neck 2nd of 7 to Master Bavard in handicap chase at Musselburgh (2m 4l, good to firm) with Salem Beach (1lb worse off) 14l 5th. Timbucktoo beaten a distance 5th of 8 to River Unshion in handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 4l, heavy). Danbys Gorse beat Burnt Imp 3l in 7-runner handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 4l, heavy), previously 23l 4th of 14 to The Next Waltz in handicap chase at Catterick (3m 1l 110yd, good to soft). Jack Yeats 42l last of 8 to Adamatic (12lb worse off) in handicap chase at Catterick (2m 3l, good to firm), previously 7½l 4th of 14 to Royal Crimson in novice chase at Hexham (2m 110yd, good). Salem Beach beat Owens Quest 1½l in 10-runner handicap chase at Musselburgh (3m, good).

MULKEV PRINCE has fallen to a fair mark and may now do better stepped back up to 2½ miles

3.30 LADBROKE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE [SHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE] (£5,537: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

501 3-4432 PARIS PIKE 10 (D,F) (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 7-12-0 ... T P Treacy 37
502 60-123 MULLIGAN'S BOY 182 (BF,F) (W Black) J Howard Johnson 7-11-10 ... N Horrocks (5) –
503 2110/1 MR LURPAK 35 (CD,F,G,S) (F Murphy Club) F Murphy 7-11-4 ... Mr J P McNamara (5) 81
504 204-F1 BIT O MAGIC 35 (CD,F) (G Adam) R Allan 7-11-2 ... B Harding 64
505 -1P200 REVERSE CHARGE 4 (F) (G Harker) G A Harker 7-11-1 ... G Lee [illegible]
506 0-5023 OH SO COSY 35 (BF) (Mr & Mrs R Green) C Parker 6-10-12 ... B Storey 97
507 4F0-6 KERRISDALE 19 (Brandsby Racing) P Beaumont 7-10-7 ... R Supple 67
508 -325FP AYEKNOWSO 31 (Good To Soft Firm) Mrs D Thomson 6-10-6 ... D Parker 97
509 3P62 BHUTAN 8 (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-6 ... P Niven 86
510 04-405 CASUAL CALL 8 (J Blundell) T Easterby 7-10-6 ... L Wyer 24
511 4251 FORTY LOVE 18 (C,S) (Tayside Farming) J Goldie 4-10-6 ... A Dobbin 105
512 0004 FALCON DU COTEAU 13 (Lyzeen Syndicate) A J Martin (Ire) 6-10-6 ... A Maguire –
513 -321P1 LORD PAT 18 (CD,S) (L P Club) Miss K Milligan 8-10-5 ... F Leahy 97
514 -45244 SHARDANTE 18 (W Bethell) J Jefferson 6-10-3 ... A S Smith 95
515 00P-50 DUSKY DANTE 49 (Dusky Dante Partnership) J Oliver 5-10-0 ... S Taylor 57

BETTING: 5-1 Mr Lurpak, 11-2 Bhutan, 7-1 Lord Pat, Shardante, 9-1 Bit O Magic, 10-1 Reverse Charge, Oh So Cosy, Forty Love, Falcon Du Coteau, 12-1 others.

1998: IRISH WILDCARD 10-11-4 E Callaghan (7-2) J Howard Johnson 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: Paris Pike 9l 2nd of 30 to Captain Clooney in maiden hurdle at Punchestown (3m, soft). Mulligan's Boy 1½l 3rd of 11 to En-Jay-Bee in handicap hurdle at Roscommon (3m, good to soft). Mr Lurpak beat Northern Union 1l in 8-runner maiden hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 4l, good to firm) with Oh So Cosy (6lb better off) 15l 3rd. Bit O Magic beat Donna's Dancer 10l in 8-runner maiden hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 4l, good to firm). Reverse Charge 16l 7th of 17 to Reggie Buck in novice handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). Kerrisdale 48l 6th of 13 to Carbury Cross in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4l 110yd, heavy). Bhutan 8l 2nd of 7 to Uniform in 4yo novice hurdle at Wetherby (3m, soft), previously 33l 6th of 13 to Simply Gifted in 3yo novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, soft). Casual Call beaten a distance 5th of 11 to Prominent Profile in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4l 110yd, soft). Forty Love beat Oversman 7l in 13-runner selling handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft). Falcon Du Coteau 9½l 4th of 20 to Heir Leutnant in handicap hurdle at Down Royal (2m 4l, heavy). Lord Pat beat Swiftway 4l in 12-runner novice handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 4l, soft) with Shardante (9lb better off) 14l 4th. Dusky Dante 14l 7th of 13 to Swiftway in maiden hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 4l, good to firm).

MR LURPAK is open to further improvement over hurdles and should give a good account

4.00 HADDINGTON NOVICES CHASE (£3,550: 3m) (9 runners)

601 20-121 ARDRINA 35 (CD,F,G,S) (L G M Racing) F Murphy 8-11-11 ... A Maguire 83
602 F2/21P NIKI DEE 38 (G) (G Dilger) P Beaumont 9-11-10 ... R Supple 105
603 F4UU41 TRIGGERFISH 27 (C,G) (Mrs M Nisbet) P Monteith 7-11-10 ... S Taylor 92
604 /PPU1- BALLYBRIT 269P (D,G,S) (V Thompson) V Thompson 10-11-4 ... Mr M Thompson –
605 0-3002 DOUBLE AGENT 27 (G,S) (Hertford Offset Ltd) J Howard Johnson 6-11-4 ... D Parker [illegible]
606 6F0005 LEGIBLE 13 (G,S) (Mrs T McIlhagga) I Ferguson (Ire) 11-11-4 ... A Dobbin –
607 S23P32 MANHATTAN RAINBOW 35 (Mrs C J Kerr) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-4 ... Mr M Bradburne (3) 87
608 243P40 SILVER PEARL 11 (Mrs L Wood) J Barclay 8-11-4 ... R McGrath 86
609 PU-P SMITHS WYND 26 (H Shiels) R Shiels 7-11-4 ... B Storey –

BETTING: 6-4 Ardrina, 4-1 Double Agent, 9-2 Manhattan Rainbow, 6-1 Niki Dee, 10-1 Triggerfish, 12-1 others.

1998: MASTER BAVARD 10-11-10 A Dobbin (6-1) P Monteith 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: Ardrina beat Manhattan Rainbow (5lb better off) 7l in 5-runner novice chase at Musselburgh (3m, good to firm). Niki Dee pulled up in novice chase grade 1 at Kempton (3m, soft), previously beat Foundry Lane 1½l in 12-runner novice chase at Wetherby (2m 4l 110yd, good). Triggerfish beat Double Agent (16lb better off) neck in 8-runner novice handicap chase at Musselburgh (2m 4l, good) with Silver Pearl (4lb better off) 28l 7th. Legible 15l 5th of 18 to Broguestown Breeze in novice chase at Down Royal (2m 4l, heavy), previously 63l last of 12 to Limestone Lad in handicap hurdle at Navan (2m, heavy). Silver Pearl beaten a distance last of 7 to Blazing Dawn in handicap chase at Kelso (2m 1f, heavy), previously 32l 4th of 10 to Tom Silk in novice chase at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft).

DOUBLE AGENT has the best of the weights with Triggerfish and Silver Pearl on their running last month

4.30 TYNE WATER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,827: 3m) (14 runners)

1 11/4P0 LIVIO 15 (F,G,S) (Low Flyers (Thoroughbreds) Ltd) A Dickin 8-11-10 ... A Dobbin 22
2 4P/P-0 TRUMP 18 (CD,F,G,S) (Mr & Mrs R Green) C Parker 10-11-9 ... D Parker –
3 2-1058 PRELUDE TO FAME 18 (B,G,S) (Jumbo Racing Club) Miss K Milligan 6-11-9 ... F Leahy 82
4 6-35U2 MY SHENANDOAH 18 (C,G,S) (P Gormley) J Howard Johnson 8-11-9 ... A S Smith 82
5 1-4P65 BRIDLE PATH 18 (D,F,G,S) (F Wilson) T Easterby 8-10-12 ... L Wyer 61
6 U-5453 IRISH WILDCARD 18 (C,G) (P Gormley) J Howard Johnson 11-10-10 ... N Horrocks (5) [illegible]
7 -32405 TOPOTHENORTHRACING 25 (CD,F,G,S) (Foulrice Twenty) P Beaumont 9-10-9 ... R Supple 101
8 2800F0 COMRADE CHINNERY 13 (F) (Red Neds Racing Club) A J Martin (Ire) 6-10-7 ... A Maguire 28
9 1F5053 I'M THE MAN 18 (F,S) (A Slack) Mrs D Sayer 8-10-5 ... L Cooper (7) –
10 /P05FP SCRIBBLER 31 (S) (J Alexander) J Barclay 13-10-3 ... S Taylor 58
11 344030 D'ARBLAY STREET 27 (G,S) (Green For Luck) W Kemp 10-10-0 ... B Powell –
12 43-106 SUNRISE SENSATION 26 (S) (R McDonald) R McDonald 6-10-0 ... W Dowling (5) 94
13 P06103 RUBER 31 (D,F,G,S) (R Thomson) R Thomson 12-10-0 ... Mr J Crowley (5) 98
14 004P0P SHEPPARDON 52 (Mrs B Kearney) I Ferguson (Ire) 7-10-0 ... C McCormack (3) –

Long handicap: Sunrise Sensation 9-12, Ruber 9-6, Sheppardon 9-3

BETTING: 9-4 My Shenandoah, 5-1 I'm The Man, 6-1 Bridle Path, 7-1 Prelude To Fame, Topothenorthracing, 10-1 Irish Wildcard, 16-1 Livio, Comrade Chinnery, 20-1 others.

1998: TOPOTHENORTHRACING 6-10-8 A Dobbin (5-1) P Beaumont 10 ran

FORM FOCUS: Livio 62l 12th of 19 to Memsahib Ofesteem in handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 4l, good). My Shenandoah neck 2nd of 9 to Contrafire in handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (3m, soft) with I'm The Man (2lb better off) 1½l 3rd, Bridle Path (8lb better off) 16l 5th, Prelude To Fame (5lb better off) 37l 6th and Trump (6lb better off) beaten a distance 8th. Irish Wildcard 12l 3rd of 13 to Forty Love in selling handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (2m, good to soft). Topothenorthracing 25l 5th of 11 to Jowoody in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (3m, heavy). Comrade Chinnery 15l 14th of 18 to Broguestown Breeze in novice chase at Down Royal (2m 4l, heavy). Ruber 7½l 3rd of 7 to Mr Mahdlo in handicap hurdle at Ayr (3m 110yd, heavy).

The front-running IRISH WILDCARD could benefit from this return to a longer trip

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The Moysian fit (4-3) works best when the force is taken in the short trump hand. Against France in the Rosenblum World Teams, Yildiz of Turkey arrived in a "reverse" Moysian with the force threatening to shorten the long trump hand.

Dealer South Love All IMPs

North: ♠ A Q 2 ♡ 8 5 3 ◇ K 10 8 7 5 ♣ A 4
West: ♠ 10 6 3 ♡ K J 10 4 ◇ J 6 2 ♣ J 10 5
East: ♠ 8 7 4 ♡ A Q 9 7 6 ◇ Q 9 3 ♣ 9 2
South: ♠ K J 9 5 ♡ 2 ◇ A 4 ♣ K Q 8 7 6 3

S	W	N	E
Yildoz	Mouiel	Aydogdu	Multo
2 S	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 C	Pass	3 D	Pass
3 S	Pass	4 S	All Pass

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: jack of hearts.

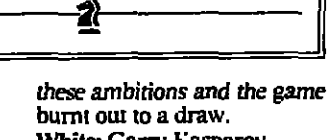
In the Turks' system Two Spades showed an opening bid with four spades and a longer ("canapé") minor, and not enough to open a strong One Club (which would be 17+). A couple of artificial relay bids from North led to the second best contract of Four Spades. Best is Six Clubs, which needs only a 3-2 club break (better than a two-to-one shot).

What is the best technique in Four Spades on repeated heart leads? If you ruff the second heart in hand and draw three rounds of trumps you will need two suits to behave (spades to break 3-3 as well as clubs 3-2) to avoid losing trump control. As the cards actually lie, you would be fine. Yildiz did better by discarding clubs on the second and third rounds of hearts. Now the fourth round of hearts could be ruffed in the dummy and trumps drawn, to survive against a 4-2 spade break.

□ The under-25 section of the Junior Camrose Trophy was won by England (David Bakhshi, Jonathan Green, Mike Goldsmith, Ian Richardson, Ed Sheldon, Alan Shillitoe, npc Chris Jagger). In the under-20s event, for the Peggy Bayer Trophy, England (Duncan Happer, Susan Stockdale, Stuart Haring, Jeneiv Shah, James Pepper, Kelvin Ward, npc David Harris) again triumphed.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.





KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov's triumph

Garry Kasparov, the world champion, has reasserted his authority by scoring a narrow but clear victory in the elite tournament at Wijk aan Zee in Holland. The tournament contained all of the leading contenders for Kasparov's title apart from Anatoly Karpov, the Fide champion, and possibly Michael Adams, the Great Britain No 1, who was otherwise engaged in a match against Yasser Seirawan, of the United States.

Kasparov dominated the tournament, the only setback being his loss near the end against Ivan Sokolov. Although both Anand and Kramnik, two of the champion's closest rivals, sailed through the event without losing a game, neither of them could match the champion's ferocious energy in notching up wins.

The game between Kasparov and Anand, which I feature today, was drawn quickly, but did exhibit some points of interest. Kasparov tried, by a series of tactics, to break into the black camp via the h7-pawn. However, careful defence by Anand thwarted these ambitions and the game burnt out to a draw.

White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Viswanathan Anand
Wijk aan Zee 1999
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	Nf3	a6
4	e3	e6
5	Bxc4	c5
6	0-0	Nf6
7	Bb3	cxd4
8	exd4	Nc6
9	Nc3	Be7
10	Re1	0-0
11	Bf4	Na5
12	Bc2	b5
13	d5	exd5
14	Qd3	Nc6
15	Bc7	Qd7
16	Ne5	Nxe5
17	Bxe5	g6
18	Bxf6	Bxf6
19	Nxd5	Bg7
20	a4	bxa4
21	Bxa4	Qd8
22	Bc6	Draw agreed

Diagram of final position

Wijk aan Zee final crosstable

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1 Kasparov	*	½	½	0	1	1	½	½	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
2 Anand	½	*	½	½	1	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	9½
3 Kramnik	½	½	*	½	½	1	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	8
4 Sokolov	1	½	½	*	½	0	½	0	½	½	½	1	1	½	7
5 Piket	0	0	½	½	*	½	1	1	½	1	½	½	½	½	7
6 Shirov	0	½	0	1	½	*	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	7
7 Timman	½	0	0	½	0	½	*	1	½	0	1	1	1	1	7
8 Ivanchuk	½	½	½	1	0	½	0	*	½	½	½	½	½	1	6½
9 Svidler	0	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	*	½	1	½	½	½	6½
10 Topalov	0	0	½	½	0	½	1	½	½	*	½	1	0	1	6
11 Kasimdzhanov	0	0	½	½	½	½	0	½	0	½	*	1	½	½	5
12 Van Wely	0	0	½	0	½	½	0	½	½	0	0	*	1	1	4½
13 Yermolinsky	0	½	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	1	½	0	*	½	4
14 Reinderman	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	½	*	3

In the above table, 1 represents a win, ½ a draw and 0 a loss

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PINGUECULUM
a. Percussion music
b. Optical disorder
c. An ancient battlefield

THYRISTOR
a. A Christian prayer
b. Glandular tonic
c. An electrical device

CURCULIO
a. A weevil
b. A hair style
c. A song cycle

CHONDRULE
a. A folk dance
b. A stony particle
c. A waterfall

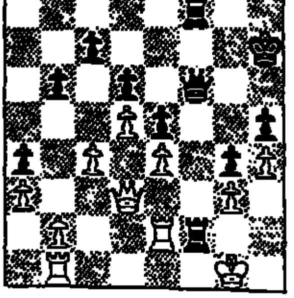
Answers on page 46

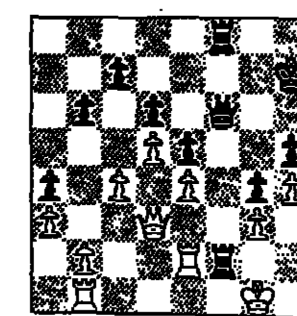
WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Kolbus — Sjaschkin, Romania, 1998.

How did Black extract the maximum from his pressure along the f-file?





Solution on page 46

Stewart to play on until bitter end

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN SYDNEY

HAVING already qualified for the final of the triangular one-day tournament against Australia, to be played over a maximum of three games next week, England's two remaining round-robin matches lack meaning. Yet, having led his team back and forth across this vast country in the past three weeks, Alec Stewart, the captain, is simply getting on with the job, which, at the moment, is going tolerably well.

Ostensibly, England can use the game against Sri Lanka at Sydney tomorrow and the one against Australia on Friday to give chances to the fringe players — Vince Wells, Mark Alleyne and Ben Hollioake. That will not prove very much. None of them is going to be in the 15-strong World Cup party, which will be named at the end of next month, although Hollioake still has a fair bit to play for in the long run.

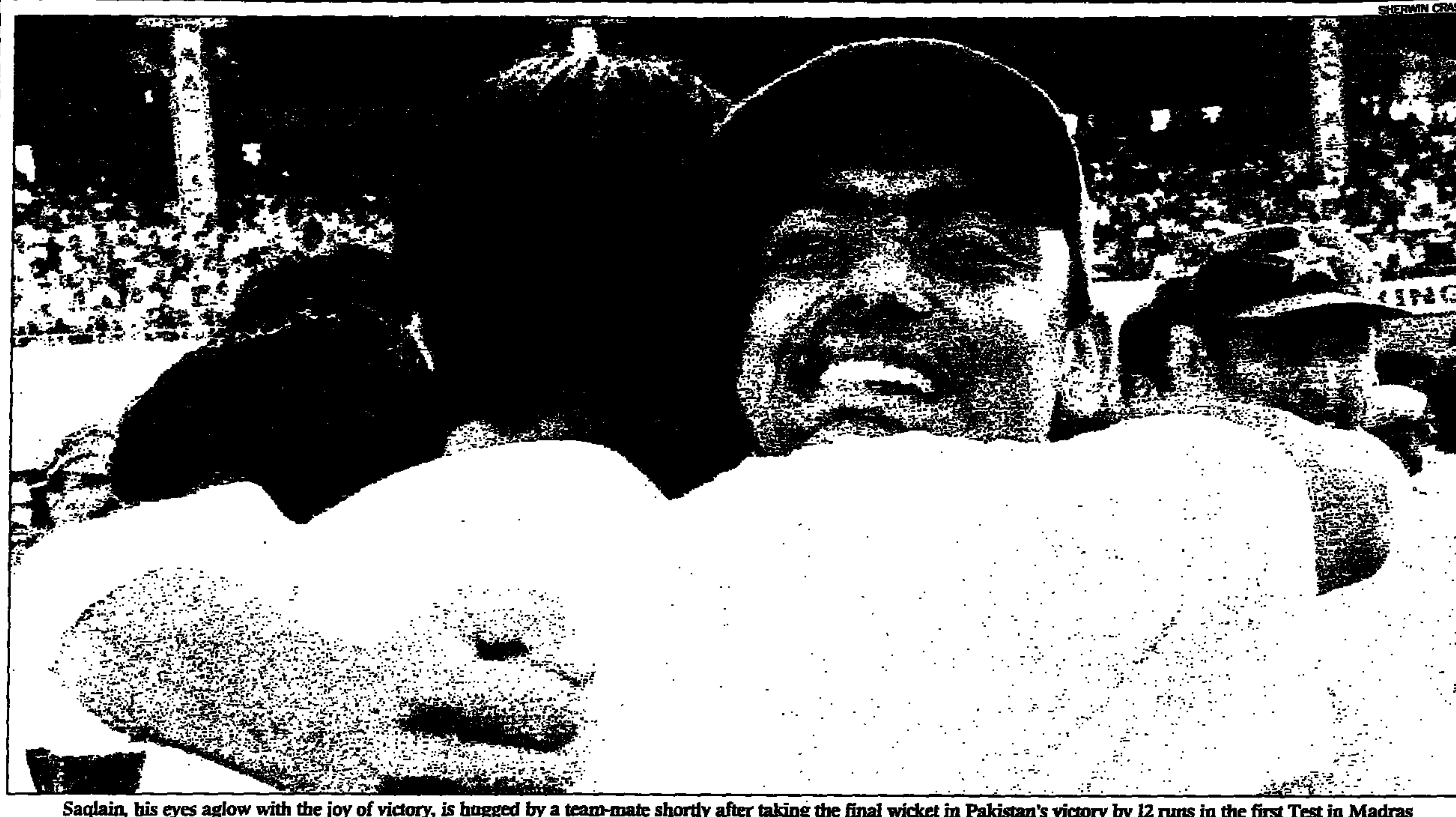
As Neil Fairbrother is nursing a sore hamstring, which he pulled in the course of his unbeaten 81 against Sri Lanka in Perth, it is likely that John Crawley will deputise. It is conceivable that Crawley will keep wicket in place of Stewart, although the captain does not intend to step down out of courtesy.

The last one-day international that he missed was in Pakistan during the last World Cup and he would like to extend the sequence into the next one, which begins in May. So, unless he is persuaded to stand aside for his own good, to give himself a breathing space before the finals, he will plough on to the bitter end.

"For a few weeks, once the tour is finished, I will be tired," Stewart said. "When you reach the end of a tour, your body collapses. I always knew this was going to be hard work. It is a long tour, but there are a maximum of five games left." That does not sound like a man who is preparing for an easy life.

Other than Stewart and the injured Fairbrother, England will want to rest Darren Gough and Alan Mullally until next week. Both began this tour and played in the Test series — Gough more than Mullally — and they must be approaching breaking point. Gough has excelled, Mullally has impressed and they will form the England new-ball pairing in the World Cup this summer.

Sri Lanka are ending the tour in disarray. Muralitharan has joined De Silva and Jayasuria in the physiotherapist's room and they are ready to go home with their tails between their legs. They will have much to ponder on their return.



Saqlain, his eyes aglow with the joy of victory, is hugged by a team-mate shortly after taking the final wicket in Pakistan's victory by 12 runs in the first Test in Madras

Saqlain's secret ball sure to keep him ahead of the game

Richard Hobson, in Madras, meets Pakistan's match-winning off spinner, who was intent on a pressing engagement

In time, Saqlain Mushtaq might bask in the fame that his part in Pakistan's dramatic victory in the first Test against India on Sunday will guarantee for the rest of his life. All he wanted yesterday, though, was to iron his own shirt before an engagement in the evening and then head into the streets of Madras to buy a sari for his wife.

Dressed all in black, even to the rims of his fashionable spectacles, Saqlain resembled a young man-about-town rather than a cricketer with a burgeoning reputation, the best off spinner in the world, according to Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain. Sachin Tendulkar, by general agreement the world's premier batsman, might well agree, having succumbed twice to Saqlain at the Chidambaram Stadium.

The consequences of his performance, returning match figures of ten for 187, soon became evident to Saqlain yesterday. He was besieged by autograph collectors and well-wishers in the city as he walked among the shops with two friends of long-standing and an omnipresent guard. There was no animosity, only respect. "We went into an ice-cream shop and the owner insisted that I should not pay," he said.

Such a reaction from the Indian people is out of kilter with the security operation that has been mounted for this tour. To see Saqlain at the hotel from which the teams left last night to set off for second Test in Delhi on Thursday meant passing three sets of police officers — by the entrance, outside the lifts and on arrival at the second floor. Visitors were searched and told to walk through a scanning device more familiar in airports. "It is like being surrounded by an army," Saqlain said.

He will be joined today by Sana, whom he married seven weeks ago. The newly-weds spoke on Sunday night before the telephone was passed among the extended family at the Lahore end.

After the immediate delight of victory at the ground, subsequent celebrations were low key. The squad visited a local mosque to offer prayers before Shahryar Khan, the team manager, hosted a small party back at the hotel. "We had a cake in the room to celebrate, then we talked about cricket and shouted the national anthem. A few of us went out for a quiet meal, that was all," Saqlain said.

On his return to the hotel, he received a fax from Surrey, his county club. "They said they were proud of a Surrey boy. That is what they called me — a Surrey boy, not a Pakistani boy," he said. A second note duly arrived from officials of the Pakistan Cricket Board grateful for Saqlain's special role in the success.

They recognise his special value to the national cause. The mystery delivery that accounted for Tendulkar in the first innings — a leg break delivered with the normal off-break action — might have been been patented by Saqlain, but he has already passed on the secret to youngsters in Faisalabad, Lahore, Karachi and Sialkot.

Until batsmen learn to read him from the hand, Saqlain can expect to remain a significant force. That special ball is the biggest reason why, at 22, he can reflect upon a fine start to his Test career. He has taken 75 wickets in 18 matches and has climbed above Mushtaq Ahmed as the leading spinner in the squad. Yet he holds enormous respect for the senior players and Wasim in particular.

There was a period of play on Sunday in which Tendulkar decided to launch an all-out attack. "He hit four fours against me in one over. It seemed to every part of the ground. I started to wonder if we would lose. I thought how short the boundaries looked. That would have been such a bad, bad thing because the game meant so much. In my opinion, India v Pakistan is bigger than the Ashes.

"But Wasim came over and told me not to worry. He said he knew I would put it right if I did my best and that he knew we would win. Wasim has brought us all together. You can see that when we get together in a small circle at the start of the play, to show that we are all motivated to play for each other. Our heads will never go down."

He is determined not to alter his way of life. "I think it is important that I do not change," he said. "It is not right to grow too far apart from the common man. I do not want other people to do all my things for me. That is why I press my own clothes, for example. I do not want anybody to think that I will suddenly grow a big head."

India management under fire



Azharuddin: calm in face of booing

FROM RICHARD HOBSON

THE *New Indian Express* newspaper described it as "a victory for peace and goodwill", but there was little of either directed towards India's cricket authorities as the 12-run defeat by Pakistan in Madras in the first Test between the countries since 1987 sank in yesterday.

Bal Thackeray, the leader of Shiv Sena, a right-wing Hindu party that pledged to disrupt the tour before relenting, blamed those who invited Pakistan: "The Board of Control for Cricket in India are responsible for India's defeat on Indian soil."

Mohammad Azharuddin seemed to be unruffled by the booing that followed the loss when he left for the second Test in Delhi, which begins on Thursday. "The crowd always behave like that when we lose," the India captain said. "It will be all right."

A number of Indian journalists have criticised the team's management for not sending out a runner for Sachin Tendulkar after he strained a muscle in his back during the second innings. Restricted, Tendulkar scored 136 before losing his wicket with his side 17 runs short.

India have named an unchanged squad for Delhi and Azharuddin said that Tendulkar will play.

County puzzled by turn of events

BY PAT GIBSON

LANCASHIRE are hoping that they are not about to become involved in a tug-of-war with the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka for the services of Muttiah Muralitharan, the controversial off spinner, next season.

Muralitharan has signed a contract agreeing to join Lancashire within 48 hours of Sri Lanka's last involvement in the World Cup — which could be any time between their final group match on May 30 and the final on June 20 — until the first week in September, when they start a three-Test series against Australia.

Now Thilanga Sumapithala, the Sri Lanka board president, has said that Muralitharan will be denied permission to play for Lancashire because they want him to rest. "Initially, Lancashire wanted him for six weeks, but now they want him for eight, which overlaps with the first Test against Australia," Sumapithala said.

"What difference does two weeks make, as long as he's back for the Test?" Jack Simmons, the Lancashire chairman, countered. "I find that a little bit hard to understand and just wonder whether the Sri Lanka board have got a little bit annoyed with the goings on in Australia and thought they would show a bit of bite. I hope it will not come to a country v club issue, but, if it does, the ball will be in Muralitharan's court — and if he is still as keen to play for us as he has led us to believe, they should take that into consideration.

"It is not going to take anything out of him bowling for Lancashire. Sure, he is going to bowl a few overs, but he wants to bowl them. And I think that the image he will create playing for us will be good for Sri Lankan cricket."

Lancashire have still not heard anything officially from the Sri Lanka board and they are not exactly holding their breath. They have been trying, unsuccessfully, to contact it to secure Muralitharan's release since last August.

"We need their permission and have until April to get it," Jim Cumbes, the chief executive, said, "but the sooner it is put to bed, the better."

England A have opted to strengthen their batting for the first match against Zimbabwe A at the Alexandra Sports Club in Harare today. Andrew Flintoff has been charged with the third seamer's role and England will play two spinners in Graeme Swann and Dean Cosker, with Swann reinforcing the batting at No 7.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Fourth-round replay

Tottenham v Wimbledon (7.45)

Nationwide League

Third division

Brentford v Carlisle (7.45)

Nationwide Conference

Rushden and Diamonds v Kidderminster (7.45)

Telford v Hednesford (7.45)

FA Cup

Auto Windscreens Shield

Northern section

Second round

Rochdale v Stoke (at Britannia Stadium, Stoke City FC, 7.45)

Southern section

Quarter-final

Bournemouth v Millwall (7.45)

Tennents Scottish Cup

Third round

Queen's Park v Dundee Utd (at Airdrie FC, 7.45)

Third-round replays

Albion v Brechin

Hamilton v St Mirren (7.45)

Stirling v Hibernian (7.45)

Scottish League

Second division

Forfar v Clyde (7.45)

Third division

Dumbarton v Berwick

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Ashford v Folkestone Invicta. **Midland division:** Bloxwich Town v Stafford. **League Cup: Second round:** Shepshed Dynamo v Baldock. **Second-round replay:** Burton v Atherstone. **Third round:** Witney v Dorchester.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Unifilla first division Cup: Droylsden v Bradford Park Avenue. **President's Cup: Second round:** Altrincham v Leigh RMI; Worksop v Runcorn. **Challenge Cup: Third round:** Blyth Spartans v Gainsborough; Guiseley v Frickley Ath. **Third-round replays:** Stalybridge Celtic v Alfreton; Trafford v Burscough.

RYMAN LEAGUE: First division: Leatherhead v Canvey Island. **Second division:** Bracknell v Hungerford, Hemel Hempstead v Tooting and Mitcham, Witham v Bedford T. **Third division:** Aveley v Ware, Corinthian-Casuals v Ford Utd. **Puma Cup: Second round:** Chesham v Dagenham and Redbridge, Dulwich Hamlet v Hampton, Worthing v Aldershot Town. **Third round:** Hitchin v Romford. **Vandanel Trophy: Second round:** Abingdon Town v Egham, Thame Utd v Chalfont St Peter

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Third-round replay: Coventry v Brighton. **Fourth round:** Sheffield Wednesday v Leicester. **Fourth-round replay:** Swindon v Everton; York v Gillingham

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE: North East Conference: Darlington v Hull (12.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Queens Park Rangers v Barnet (2.0); Portsmouth v West Ham United; Oxford United v Wimbledon (7.0).

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Liverpool v Preston (7.0). **First division:** Oldham v Burnley (7.0). **Second division:** Rotherham v Bradford (2.0); Stockport v Wrexham (7.0). **Third division:** Halifax v Wigan (2.0).

SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Saffron Walden v Brentwood. **Harry Fisher Memorial Trophy: Second round:** Sawbridgeworth v Bowers

COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury v Shortwood

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Premier division: Faversham v Canterbury; Hythe v Thamesmead, Lordswood v VCD; Whitstable Town v Tunbridge Wells.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell v Elmore; Bridgwater v Bideford; Bristol Manor Farm v Mangotsfield United

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey Town v New Bradwell St Peter; Beaconsfield Sycob v Brook House; Hillingdon Borough v Welwyn Garden City; Milton Keynes v Ruislip Manor; Waltham Abbey v St Margaretsbury. **Challenge Trophy: Second round:** Cockfosters v Holmer Green.

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash v Westfield; Merstham v Chipstead; Raynes Park Vale v Godalming and Guilford; Viking Sports v Hartley Wintney.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bandon v Brierley Hill T; Star v Stafford Town; Westfields v Dudley Town. **Premier division League Cup: Second round:** Darlaston v Ludlow Town, Malvern Town v Smethwick Rangers, Walsall Wood v Wolverhampton.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ely v Newmarket. Wroxham v Great Yarmouth.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: BAT v Bemerton Heath; Fareham v Gosport; Thatcham Town v AFC Newbury. **League Cup: Quarter-final, first leg:** Lymington and New Milton v Wimborne.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Chichester v Wick; Hailsham v Eastbourne, Ringmer v Hassocks

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Boldmere St M v Oldbury.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Nantwich Town v Maine Road.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Heinz Ketchup Trophy: Fifth Round: Isle of Wight v Mid Hertfordshire at Newport (6pm). **Premier League Trophy (Under-16):** Devon v Somerset at Clyst Rovers (7pm).

RUGBY UNION

WELSH LEAGUE: First division: (kick-off 7.0). Blackwood v Pontypool; Bonymaen v Maesteg, Cross Keys v Abertillery; Llandovery v Newbridge; Merthyr v Tondu, Rumney v Tredegar; South Wales Police v Dunvant; UWIC v Treorchy

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Greater London Leopards v Milton Keynes Lions (7.30)

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION TO A PRIVATE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY LICENCE ELECTRICITY DIRECT (U.K.) LIMITED

Take note that Electricity Direct (UK) Limited has applied for an extension to its existing private electricity supply licence in the following terms:

Copies of maps relevant to this application have been lodged in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Electricity (Applications for Licences and Extensions of Licences) Regulations 1990, at regional offices of the Office of Electricity Regulation. Copies are available for inspection by the public between 10. a.m. and 4 p.m. on any working day.

1 Full name of the applicant(s): Electricity Direct (UK) Limited.

2. Address of the applicant(s) or, in the case of a body corporate, the registered or principal office: 78 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XF.

3. Where the applicant is a company, the full names of the current Directors and the company's registered number: Glenn Frederick Mackay and Arthur Dennis Wingrove, Company registered number 3174066.

4. Where a holding of 20 per cent or more of the shares of an applicant is held by a body corporate or an unincorporated association carrying on a trade or business with or without a view to profit, the name(s) and address(es) of the holder(s) of such shares shall be provided: Not applicable.

5. Desired date from which the licence is to take effect: 7th February 1999.

6. A sufficient description adequately specifying the nature and situation of the premises intended to be supplied, separately identifying the premises within the power bands specified in and to the extent provided by paragraph 7 below. All non-domestic premises with a demand below 0.1MW but excluding premises in the designated sector in the following public electricity supply areas: Eastern Electricity plc, East Midlands Electricity plc, London Electricity plc, Manweb plc, Midlands Electricity plc, Northern Electric plc, Norweb plc, Scottish Hydro Electric plc, Scottish Power plc, Seaboard plc, South Wales Electricity plc, South Western Electricity plc, Southern Electric plc, Yorkshire Electricity plc.

7. (a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b) indicate the total number of premises intended to be supplied in each power band as shown in the table below, together with the aggregate energy forecast to be supplied and the aggregate estimated maximum demand for each power band.
(b) If the date in paragraph 5 above is on or after 1st April 1994 then only power Band A shall be completed and if the said date is on or after 1st April 1998 then this paragraph shall cease to have effect. Paragraph 7(A) and 7(B) shall cease to have effect due to the date in paragraph 5.

8. A description of the system of electric lines and electrical plant by means of which the applicant intends to supply electricity, indicating which plant and lines are to be constructed and which are existing plant and lines, and further identifying any parts of that system which will not be owned by or otherwise in the possession or control of the applicant: The electricity will be supplied using the distribution systems of the Public Electricity Suppliers.

9. A statement of the extent (if any) to which the applicant considers it necessary for powers under Schedule 3 (compulsory acquisition of land etc.) and under Schedule 4 (other powers etc.) to the Act to be given through the licence for which he is applying: None.

10. Details of any licences held, applied for or being applied for by the applicant in respect of generation, transmission or supply of electricity: Electricity Direct (UK) Limited holds a private electricity supply licence covering the supply of electricity to premises over 100kW in England & Wales.

G. F. Mackay, Director of Electricity Direct (UK) Limited, 78 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XF

Note 1.
Reference to shares-
(a) in relation to an applicant with a share capital, are to allotted shares;
(b) in relation to an applicant with capital but no share capital, are to rights to share in the capital of the applicant;
(c) in relation to an applicant without capital, are to interests-
(i) conferring any right to share in the profits or liability to contribute to the losses of the applicant; or
(ii) giving rise to an obligation to contribute to the debts or expenses of the applicant in the event of a winding up.

Note 2.
The description should enable the areas, location or premises concerned to be adequately and readily identified, by map if the applicant so desires or by any other convenient means. The following examples of descriptions that might be used are not exhaustive and are by way of illustration only: the area or premises might be identified by the name of the customers and/or postal address of the premises to be supplied; described by reference to a named street or road, town, city, village, parish, county or other accepted boundary, such as a Local Authority Area; or described by reference to certain other characteristics such as the type of premises or the maximum electrical demand to be met at those premises.

Note 3.
(a) For premises already receiving electricity for a period in excess of 12 months, whether from the applicant or anyone else, maximum demand shall be calculated as the average of the three highest monthly maximum demands in the preceding 12 months; or
(b) for premises not already so receiving electricity maximum demand shall be calculated as the average of the 3 highest monthly maximum demands which might reasonably be expected by the applicant to be supplied in the first 12 months of supply.

G.F. MACKAY,
Director of Electricity Direct (UK) Limited,
78 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1XF

Notice of application for extension of public gas transporter's licence under section 7 of the Gas Act 1986

Southern Electric Pipelines Limited whose registered office is situated at Southern Electric House, Westacott Way, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3QB hereby gives notice that it has made an application to the Director General of Gas Supply for an extension to the licence granted to it under section 7 of the Gas Act 1986 authorising the conveyance of gas through pipes in respect of the following areas:
Keephatch Park Binfield Road Wokingham, Berks SU8242 6919
Gresham Road, Staines, Middx. TQ 0430 7130
Queens Street, Gomshall, Surrey TQ 0819 4769
Mark Cutten, 30/1/99
For and on behalf of Southern Electric Pipelines Limited.

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 7394 OF 1998
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
In the Matter of Hythe Securities Limited. In the Matter of the Companies Act 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 29th December 1998 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of capital of the above named Company from £1,500,000.00 to £328,000.00 by returning capital which is in excess of the wants of the Company. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday the 10th day of February 1999. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. DATED this 1st day of February 1999.
Magwells Solicitors of 6 Angel Gate, City Road, London, EC1V 2PR. Solicitors for the above named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

COOPER Lawrence Bernard Cooper otherwise Lewis Bernard Cooper late of Brighton, East Sussex died there on 9 November 1998 (Estate about £17,000)
Gladys Eva Drayton and kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.
DICK-LARKAM nee MARKLOVE Julia Dick-Larkam nee Marklove widow late of Wembley Park, Middlesex died there on or about 27 June 1998 (Estate about £180,000)
DICKERSON Percy Dickerson late of Cambridge died there on 2 April 1998 (Estate about £8,000)
FIRTH James Firth late of Bradford, West Yorkshire died there on 2 October 1997 (Estate about £5,500)
GRUBNYS Kazys Grubnys late of Derby died there on 19 October 1998 (Estate about £50,000)
JELPKE Reginald Albert Jelpke late of Wembley, Middlesex died at Harrow, Middlesex on 6 February 1997 (Estate about £30,000)
LIDDLE George Liddle late of Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne & Wear died there on 12 February 1998 (Estate about £8,300)
MAGUIRE otherwise WARD otherwise McGUIRE Francis Joseph Maguire otherwise John Ward otherwise Francis Joseph McGuire late of Thornton Heath, Surrey died there on 21 July 1996 (Estate about £2,000)
OSMAN Queenie Vera Osman spinster late of Dartford, Kent died there on 14 January 1997 (Estate about £5,100)
PALEY Thomas Edward Paley late of Poplar, London E14 died at Mile End, London E1 on 18 June 1998 (Estate about £140,000)
SAMMON otherwise SALMON otherwise SALMONS otherwise SALMON James Joseph Sammon otherwise James Joseph Salmon otherwise James Joseph Salmons otherwise James Joseph Salmon late of West Kensington, London W14 died there on 15 December 1994 (Estate about £10,000)
TOMLINSON John Joffre Tomlinson late of Harrow, Middlesex died there on 25 December 1997 (Estate about £19,000)
The Widow/Widower and kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
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Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

RUGBY UNION

Wales on wing and a prayer with Robinson

By Mark Souster

GRAHAM HENRY pulled a rabbit out of the hat yesterday when he awarded a first cap to Matthew Robinson, the Swansea wing, for Wales's opening match in the Five Nations Championship, against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday. Wales can only hope that the rabbit does not get startled in the headlights of international rugby.

Robinson's rapid elevation after barely a season at Swansea is indicative of the problems that Henry has had to contend with on the right wing. With Gareth Thomas unfit, Anthony Sullivan untested and Ieuan Evans resisting overtures to return, the Wales coach had few options but to turn to a player whom he believes has all the basic qualities, if not the experience.

Henry admitted that Robinson had "come out of nowhere", but said: "All players have to win their first cap some time. I think he plays with some spark and he has all the basic ingredients."

Henry had offered a clue on Saturday when Robinson, 25, was pulled out of his club's SWALEC Cup fixture against Newport. Even then, it was felt that the Cardiff-born player would be named on the replacements' bench, with Allan Bateman, who missed both autumn internationals after shoulder surgery, drafted in as an emergency wing. That would have enabled Mark Taylor to continue his successful club partnership at centre with Scott Gibbs.

However, the unfortunate Taylor, who impressed against South Africa and Argentina, has been dropped to accommodate Bateman in his natural position. Henry described the decision as the hardest that he has had to make since his appointment.

A delighted Robinson, who is flying his parents from Jamaica to watch his debut, said: "I have been told to do what I do best, nobody will ask for any more. If that is not good enough, then so be it."

Robinson, who moved from Newport last summer, learnt his rugby as a fly half at King's College, Taunton, progressing through the ranks to Somerset Schools and the South and South West under-18 group. He was equally adept at cricket — his prowess earned him a one-year contract with Somerset and a summer with Warwickshire — before a back injury forced him to concentrate on rugby and a Masters degree in sports science at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff.

Gibbs has little doubt that Robinson will rise to the occasion. "He has got genuine enthusiasm for the game and has done well since being at Swansea," he said.

Altogether, there are five changes from the side that beat Argentina. As expected, Craig Quinnell, the lock forward, could not be considered because of damaged knee ligaments. Ian Gough, of Pontypridd, partners Chris Wyatt in the second row and Darren Morris and David Young will prop, replacing Chris Anthony and Andrew Lewis.

Whether Bryan Redpath, his counterpart, will be fit to captain Scotland must be doubtful. The Edinburgh Reivers scrum half has had intensive physiotherapy on an ankle injury. A final decision will be made this morning. If, as expected, he is ruled out, Gary Armstrong is likely to assume his place and the captaincy.

Andy Ward may miss Ireland's game with France at Lansdowne Road on Saturday. He could not train with the national squad yesterday after suffering a kick just above the knee during the European Cup final. The Ireland XV is due to be named this afternoon, but Mark Blair, Ward's provincial colleague, has won promotion already to the second row for the A international with France on Friday.

TEAM

WALES: S Howarth (Sale), D James (Pontypridd), A Bateman (Richmond), S Gibbs (Swansea), M Robinson (Swansea), N Jenkins (Pontypridd), R Howley (Cardiff, captain), D Morris (Swansea), J Humphreys (Cardiff), D Young (Cardiff), I Gough (Pontypridd), C Wyatt (Llanelli), C Charvis (Swansea), M Williams (Pontypridd), S Quinnell (Llanelli). Replacements: K Morgan (Pontypridd), M Taylor (Swansea), D Llewellyn (Ebbw Vale), G Lewis (Pontypridd), M Voyle (Llanelli), C Anthony (Swansea), B Williams (Richmond)

Bath pose challenge to victorious Ulster

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

ULSTER, enjoying to the full their new status as European Cup-holders, have been invited to play a challenge match against Bath, who won the trophy in 1998 but were unable to defend it this season because of the English boycott of the competition. However, like other commercial offers that have come their way, the Ulster management will allow time to reflect on their recent popularity.

"A game with Bath at Ravenhill — which is what they have offered — would be a lovely thing to do," Michael Reid, the Ulster chief executive, said yesterday. "It's a very genuine offer from a club who have supported the European idea and know what it's like to win the cup. We will take their offer seriously, but we need a few days to take stock."

Bath are no longer involved in the Tetley's Bitter Cup, their erstwhile standing as perennial favourites having passed to Leicester. The draw for the quarter-finals will take Leicester back to the Madej-ski Stadium to play Richmond over the weekend of February 27 and 28, where they won 23-11 in the Allied Dunbar Premiership last week.

Gareth Rees and Alain Penaud presided over the draw, Rees doing better for Wasps, his club, by keeping them at home, whereas Penaud gave his Saracens side, holders of the cup, the daunting task of a visit to Newcastle Falcons. Since the French fly half also dispatched London Irish, the first division's form side, to Wasps, he could be said to have neutralised Rees's efforts, but Penaud needs no reminding that, back in October, Saracens lost 43-12 away to Newcastle.

DRAW: Richmond v Leicester; Wasps v London Irish, Newcastle Falcons v Saracens, Gloucester v Harlequins.
☐ Ties to be played February 27 or 28

ROB SCHUMACHER



The spectator who constantly shouted abuse at Woods is bundled to the ground by police in Arizona on Sunday

Guarding against maniacs

A heckler caught carrying a gun has sounded a new threat for golf. **John Hopkins** reports

A golfer faces many moments of crisis in any round. A curling, 3ft, downhill putt to win the match. A tee-shot that requires the ball to be moved from right to left, when there is a strong wind blowing from left to right. A pitch over a bunker from an early, grass-free lie.

Yet the very essence of golf is that it is a quiet, pastoral game. The click of a ball as it leaves the face of an iron, the gasp of a crowd at the strength or accuracy of a stroke, the roar that greets a hole in one — these are the sounds of golf. Ugly crowd scenes and poor sportsmanship may be present in other sports, but golf has prided itself on being, by and large, free of these blemishes.

So the news from Arizona is disturbing. Tiger Woods, who attracts more spectators than any other golfer, was heckled by a spectator carrying a gun in the last round of the Phoenix Open on Sunday. Rocco Mediate won the tournament by two strokes from Justin Leonard. Woods was three strokes behind Mediate.

Heckling in golf is as old as the gutta-percha ball. The great Bobby Jones felt it necessary to counsel spectators at the Masters as to the way to behave. When Harry Vardon and Ted Ray competed in the United States at the turn of the century, they were aware that they were cocks of the walk in the world of golf and that some Americans wanted to see them turned into feather dusters.

We should not be xenophobic about this, either. Spectators at Ryder Cups in Great Britain have been ill-behaved as their patriotism has got the better of them.

There have been other examples. During the US Open last year, Colin Montgomerie was the victim a concerted series of verbal assaults from hecklers. In the Forties, Lloyd Mangrum was telephoned after the third round of a tournament that he was leading and told that, unless he threw away his lead, he would be killed. Mangrum ignored the death threat and won the event.

Hubert Green won the US Open in 1977 even after officials had been telephoned during his last round and warned that he was about to be shot. In 1969, Gary Player narrowly lost the US PGA Championship after having a drink thrown in his face by anti-apartheid protesters.

Yet now the stakes appear to have been raised again because this is believed to be the first time that a spectator carrying a gun has abused a golfer. The spectator was told to quieten down by a policeman, but he became more noisy. He was arrested and released later.

Woods was not aware that the man was armed and, showing the strength of mind for which he is famous, has made no complaint. As the best-known golfer in the world, he has often been given protection, but it is a sad condemnation that he may have to have an armed guard with him every time he plays from now on.

JEFF TOPPING



Woods may have no option but to have an armed guard every time that he sets foot on a course in the future

ATHLETICS

Walker passed further drug test

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

DOUGIE WALKER, the European 200 metres champion who returned positive A and B samples from a drugs test in December, passed a subsequent test six weeks later, it will be revealed today. Nick Bitel, the athlete's lawyer, said last night that this development "greatly strengthened" Walker's case to be cleared.

Walker is waiting for a doping panel to meet to decide whether he has a case to answer. He is adamant that he has never taken performance-enhancing drugs after a urine sample carried out in an out-of-competition test on December 1 indicated the use of nandrolone, a banned steroid.

Bitel said that he was "a little surprised" that news of the second test had come to light — "but obviously it is very good news for Doug," he added. "This is positively in his favour, showing what we have always said — that this is a false positive."

After adverse findings had appeared in Walker's December test, the UK Sports Council carried out a targeted test on January 10. Bitel is adamant that the January test would have a bearing on the earlier one, because, he said, there was evidence that nandrolone can last in the body for many months.

"We think this is good supporting evidence, that whatever it was that gave this false positive, it was not nandrolone, which was the banned substance, or any other banned substance. These sort of metabolites can come in a number of different ways. They are naturally occurring, they come from other products. They come from meat ingestion. There is a whole series of ways it which they can be produced, but the only one that lasts a long time in the body is nandrolone."

UK Athletics is expected to have a panel in place to consider Walker's case on February 14.

SPORT IN BRIEF

■ **BOWLS:** Five members of the England team — David Holt, Simon Skelton, Mark Royal, Graham Hatherall and Ian Bond — have qualified for the final stages of the Warners EIBA Champion of Champions singles tournament, which will be held at Gunton Hall, near Lowestoft, on March 20 and 21.

■ **SQUASH:** David Evans, the five-times champion of Wales, has withdrawn from the national championships in Manchester this week after aggravating a groin injury during his encounter with Peter Nicol, the world No 1, in the Tournament of Champions in New York.

■ **RACKETS:** Mark Hubbard, the professional at Radley College, defeated Neil Smith, the world champion, 3-2 in the semi-finals of the SG Asset Management professional singles championship at Eton. However, he lost to Toby Sawrey-Cookson, the Clifton College professional, 3-0 in the final.

■ **CYCLING:** The 2000 Tour de France will start from the Futuroscope theme park near Poitiers. Plans to start on the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe have been shelved because of logistical problems. Futuroscope has hosted Tour stages eight times.

■ **TENNIS:** The funeral of John Oakley, the long-serving tennis writer of the Press Association, who died on Saturday, aged 70, is to be held at St Paul's Church, Crawley Ridge, Camberley, at 3pm on Friday, followed by a wake at the Frimley Hall hotel.

RUGBY LEAGUE: HEAVYWEIGHTS THROWN TOGETHER IN FOURTH-ROUND DRAW

Warriors face clash of the titans

By Christopher Irvine

THE rest avoided the two teams that they feared most when Leeds Rhinos and Wigan Warriors, the Super League grand finalists last season, were last night drawn to meet in the fourth round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

John Monie, the Wigan coach, said: "It's never really worried me when we come in, but I'd have preferred a draw other than this one." Although Leeds won their two league meetings, Wigan had the edge when it mattered more in the play-offs and the final itself, when they triumphed 10-4 at Old Trafford last October. In their previous meetings in the cup, Wigan were easy winners in the 1994 and 1995 finals. The bookmakers made their feelings known when they immediately installed Wigan as 9-4 favourites to win the competition, with Leeds at 5-1.

Graham Murray, the Leeds coach, received the news at the Rhinos' week-long training camp in Lanzarote. "Wonderful," he said. "I don't know whether to tell the players before or after dinner."

The ramifications of the draw also haunted Sheffield Eagles, the surprise victors against Wigan in the final last year, when they drew an away tie at Salford Reds in a repeat of their semi-final in 1998.

In a third all-Super League tie, Castleford Tigers will entertain Hull Sharks, while the draw ensured varying degrees of difficulty for the two amateur survivors. Featherstone Lions, who have reached the fourth round for a second year, have a home tie against Halifax Blue Sox, while Leigh Miners Rangers also have home advantage against Hull Kingston Rovers, the first division title favourites.

Kevin Iro could miss St Helens's tie away to Hunslet after undergoing an ankle operation in New Zealand. He said: "It wasn't serious surgery but I may need a little more recuperation time. I'd had trouble with the ankle last season and had some pieces of floating bone chips removed."

DRAW

FOURTH ROUND: Featherstone Lions v Halifax, Leeds v Wigan, Wakefield v Batley, Bradford v Workington, Rochdale v York, Whitehaven v Lancashire Lynx, Castleford v Hull, Barrow v Leigh; Warrington v Featherstone, Salford v Sheffield, Leigh MR v Hull KR; Oldham or Eccles v Dewsbury, London v Doncaster, Hunslet v St Helens, Huddersfield v Swinton, Widnes v Keighley

Ties to be played on February 13 or 14

FOOTBALL

City investors lift Royle

By Stephen Wood

Royle: forced to sell

MANCHESTER City are hoping to announce an investment of up to £20 million in the next two months, but insist that it will not represent a takeover battle at Maine Road. Instead, the money would be used to strengthen the squad and to clarify the shareholding of the Nationwide League second division club.

David Bernstein, the chairman, revealed yesterday that he is in talks with potential domestic investors with a view to securing a deal before the transfer deadline this season. After being relegated last season, City are in need of financial support. Joe Royle, the manager, has had to sell players before being able to buy others since his arrival 12 months ago.

The investments would include the 26 per cent stake of the family of Stephen Boler, the former leading shareholder who died last year, at a cost of £7 million.

Sebastien Perez, the Blackburn Rovers midfield player, has returned on loan to Bastia, the French club that sold him to Blackburn last summer.

Ugo Ehiogu, the Aston Villa defender, will be out of action for at least a month with a fractured eye socket, sustained in the game away to Newcastle United on Saturday.

Alan Kelly, Ian Harte and Lee Carsley are all back in the Ireland squad for the international match against Paraguay at Lansdowne Road a week tomorrow.

IRELAND SQUAD (v Paraguay, February 10): **S Given** (Newcastle United), **A Kelly** (Sheffield United), **D Irwin** (Manchester United), **J Kenna** (Blackburn Rovers), **I Harte** (Leeds United), **S Staunton** (Liverpool), **K Cunningham** (Wimbledon), **G Breen** (Coventry City), **P Babb** (Liverpool), **R Keane** (Manchester United), **J McAteer** (Blackburn Rovers), **M Kinsella** (Charlton Athletic), **A McLoughlin** (Portsmouth), **L Carsley** (Derby County), **R Delap** (Derby County), **N Quinn** (Sunderland), **A Cascarino** (AS Nancy), **R Keane** (Wolverhampton Wanderers), **D Duff** (Blackburn Rovers), **D Connolly** (Wolverhampton Wanderers)

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

CROSS COUNTRY: Abberley Hall National Prep school relay championships: Under-13: 1, Abberley Hall 28 17; 2, Caldicott 28.51; 3, Homs Hill 29 55. **Under-11** (4 x 1,200m): 1, St Michael's, Tawstock 19min 54sec; 2, Abberley Hall 20 07; 3, Brandeston Hall 20 12

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sunday: Birmingham Bullets 84 Milton Keynes Lions 82; Thames Valley Tigers 120 Worthing Bears 100; Manchester Giants 91 Newcastle Eagles 83. **Abandoned:** Chester Jets v Derby Storm

BOWLS

EGHAM TROPHY: All England mixed inter-club championship: Zone finals: Concordia bt Thornaby 85-63; Cumbria bt Ryedale 92-56, Spalding bt Nottingham 76-69, Wellingborough bt Cambridge Chesterton 95-77; North Walsham bt Roundwood 91-73; Beccles bt Tilbury 94-54; Picketts Lock bt Havering 72-67, Cherwell bt Desborough (Maidenhead) 80-78, Swindon Westlecot bt Tamworth 81-61; Cambridge Park bt Crystal Palace 90-70, Egham bt Chewton Park 111-58; Folkestone bt Angel Tonbridge 101-61; Worthing bt Eastbourne 81-72; Moonfleet bt Solent 84-68, Taunton Deane bt Northavon 97-74, Teignbridge bt Plymouth Mayflower 89-73

FOOTBALL

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Quarter-final draw: Taunton Town v Lymington and New Milton, Tiverton Town v Clitheroe, Woodbridge Town v Thame United, Bedlington Terriers v Workington
☐ Ties to be played February 20

BRAZIL: Rio-São Paulo tournament: Group One: Santos 0 Vasco da Gama 0, Fluminense 4 Palmeiras 0. **Group Two:** Sao Paulo 2 Botafogo 0; Flamengo 2 Corinthians 0

MEXICO: Summer championship: Morelia 2 UNL Tigres 3; UNAM Pumas 0 Atlas 0; Toluca 3 Necaxa 1, Cruz Azul 3 Leon 2, Monterrey 3 UAG Tecos 0, Neza Toros 3 Atlante 3; America 3 Santos Laguna 1; Puebla 3 Atletico Celaya 1.

GOLF

ARIZONA: Phoenix Open: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): **273:** R Mediate 69, 67, 66, 71. **275:** J Leonard 67, 75, 67, 66. **276:** T Woods 71, 67, 70, 68. **279:** H Sutton 69, 70, 71, 69. **280:** B Glasson 69, 71, 70, 70. **282:** K Wentworth 72, 72, 71, 67; J Furyk 72, 69, 70, 71; K Perry 72, 70, 68, 72; H Frazar 74, 69, 66, 73. **283:** D Hart 75, 70, 70, 68; S Cink 74, 69, 71, 69; J P Hayes 70, 71, 69, 73; L Janzen 69, 71, 69, 74

HOCKEY

CRYSTAL PALACE: Women's national indoor championships: Premier division play-off matches: Slough 8 Hightown 1. **Final standings:** 1, Slough; 2, Chelmsford; 3, Hightown. **Under-19: Semi-finals:** Bromsgrove 4 Harleston 2, Bradford 7 Wycombe 2. **Final:** Bromsgrove 4 Bradford 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 0 Carolina 0 (OT), Pittsburgh 5 Montreal 3; Phoenix 5 Nashville 1

LUGE

KOENIGSSEE, Germany: World championships: Men's singles: 1, A Zoeggeler (It) 1min 35 556sec (47.843/47 713); 2, J Mueller (Ger) 1 35 819; 3, N Huber (It) 1 35 911; 4, R Fegg (Ger) 1 35 933. **Pairs:** 1, P Leitner and A Resch (Ger) 1 31 841 (45 821/46 020); 2, T Schiegl and M Schiegl (Austria) 1 32.047; 3, M Grimmette and B Martin (US) 1 32 074; 4, A Florschuetz/T Wustlich (Ger) 1 32 342. **Women's singles:** 1, S Wiedemann (Ger) 1 32 482 (46 194/46.288); 2, B Niedernhuber (Ger) 1 32.490; 3, S Otto (Ger) 1 32 544; 4, S Erdmann (Ger) 1.32.763

RACKETS

ETON: SG Asset Management professional singles championships: Semi-finals: M Hubboard bt N Smith 9-15, 15-7, 15-10, 8-15, 15-7; T Sawrey-Cookson bt M Crosby 15-0 15-0 15-0. **Final:** Sawrey-Cookson bt Hubbard 15-7 15-6 15-9

RUGBY UNION

SWALEC Cup: Sixth round draw: Aberavon v Cardiff, Blackwood v Tredegar, Caerphilly v Ebbw Vale, Cross Keys v Tondu, Cwmllynfell or Pontypridd v Bonymaen, Llanelli or Ynysybwl v Llanhilleth, Nantymoel or Bridgend v Swansea, Pontypool v Neath.
☐ Ties to be played February 27

SKIING

WHISTLER, British Columbia: World Cup freestyle: Dual moguls: Men's final: 1, T Hemery (Fr); 2, D Gaumer (Can); 3, J Lamela (Fin). **Women's final:** 1, M Roark (US); 2, B Ballachey (US); 3, S Kerloot (Can)

SNOOKER

CARDIFF: Regal Welsh Open: Final: Williams bt Hendry 9-8

TENNIS

MARSEILLES, France: Marseilles Open: Qualifying round: D Hrbaty (Slovakia) bt A Cherkasov (Russ) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6; J Boutter (Fr) bt J Balcells (Fr) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; F Jonsson (Swe) bt O Stanoytchev (Bul) 6-3, 6-2; C Saulnier (Fr) bt J van Herck (Bel) 7-6, 3-6, 6-3

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday February 6
Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
1 Aston Villa v Blackburn 1
2 Chelsea v Southampton 1
3 Leeds v Newcastle 1
4 Leicester v Sheff Wed 1
5 Liverpool v Middlesbro 1
6 Nott'm F v Man Utd 2
7 Tottenham v Coventry X
8 West Ham v Arsenal 2

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION
9 Barnsley v Crewe 1
10 Bradford v Watford X
11 Bury v Ipswich X
12 Crystal Palace v Birmingham 2
13 Grimsby v Bolton 2
14 Norwich v Stockport 1
15 Port Vale v Hudd'f'ld X
16 Portsmouth v Tranmere 2
17 Sheff Utd v West Brom 2
18 Sunderland v Swindon 1
19 Wolves v Oxford 1

SECOND DIVISION
20 Bournemouth v Stoke X
21 Burnley v Luton 1
22 Gill'gham v Chest'f'ld 1
23 Macclesf'd v Wrexham 1
24 Man City v Millwall 1
25 Northhampton v Blackpool 2
26 Oldham v Lincoln 1
27 Preston v Bristol R 1
28 Reading v Walsall 1
29 Wigan v Notts County 1
30 Wycombe v Fulham 2

THIRD DIVISION
31 Brentford v Hull X
32 Carlisle v Leyton O 1
33 Chester v Exeter 2
34 Darlington v Mansfield X
35 Hartlepool v Halifax 1
36 Peterborough v Barnet 1
37 Plymouth v Cardiff X
38 Rotherham v Southend 1
39 Scarboro v Cambridge 2

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
40 Aberdeen v Kilmarnock X
41 Celtic v Hearts 1
42 Dundee v Motherwell X
43 St J'stone v Dundee U 1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION
44 Ayr v G Morton 1
45 *Clydebank v Falkirk 2
46 Hamilton v Airdrie 2
47 Hibernian v Stranraer 1
48 St Mirren v Raith 1

SECOND DIVISION
49 Arbroath v Alloa 1

*Pools panel to adjudicate

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Tottenham, Bradford City, Bury, Port Vale, Bournemouth, Brentford, Darlington, Plymouth, Aberdeen, Dundee

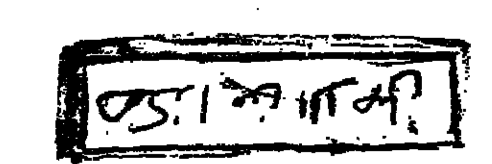
BEST DRAWS: Bury, Port Vale, Bournemouth, Darlington, Dundee

AWAYS: Manchester United, Arsenal, Bolton, Blackpool, Fulham

HOMES: Chelsea, Liverpool, Norwich, Sunderland, Burnley, Macclesfield, Oldham, Preston, Rotherham

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Chelsea, Norwich, Burnley, Oldham, Rotherham. **Aways:** Bolton, Blackpool, Fulham. **Draws:** Bury, Darlington, Dundee.

■ Vince Wright



Julian Muscat reviews an eventful Australian Open

More spice than substance

IT WAS more akin to a soap opera than a grand-slam tournament. There was a near-mutiny over drugs among men and further evidence that the leading women are increasingly divorced from reality. Then there was Amelie Mauresmo, allegedly described as "half a man" by Martina Hingis, the self-proclaimed Spice Girl of tennis.

The 1999 Australian Open was a tabloid tournament. Venus Williams's falling beads took precedence over falling seeds and there was the surreal sight of Petr Korda, unpunished after testing positive for a steroid, defending the title that he won 12 months earlier. It was somehow appropriate that the star of the circus was a Russian: Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the men's singles champion.

Hingis, 18, was at once the biggest winner and loser. Her public comments sometimes demeaned her achievement in landing her third successive title. She is fast becoming the catty soap queen, a veritable cartoon of the character who, two years ago, enchanted the world with her zestful youth.

Hingis flatly denied the "half a man" comment. A day later, she denied having apologised to Mauresmo, insisting: "I have nothing to apologise for." Mauresmo's version? Yes, Hingis had apologised. As Hingis persists with her foolish course, her audience is left agog. The sweet teenager is turning sour; the kitten is now a cat with claws. Let's not be too hard on her, though. After all, she has been encouraged along her way by the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour.

For 12 months, the WTA has heavily promoted its teenage spice. Kournikova was its focus last year and now that she has backed away "to concentrate on my tennis", Hingis has gladly filled the breach. Pictures of a scantily-clad Hingis up a tree; pictures of Hingis, the Lady In Red, kicking sand at photographers. At this tournament, however, Hingis, the teenage fantasist, collided with real life, represented by the 19-year-old Mauresmo.



Mauresmo: a muscular but unassuming talent

Thoughtful, unassuming and unashamedly lesbian, she handled herself with considerable aplomb. It was only on her return to Paris yesterday that she spoke out. Hingis's words were "an unpleasant joke", she said. "It was stupid of her." Moreover, she attributed her excellent results to the regular courtside presence of Sylvie Bourdon, her girlfriend. "I felt liberated and it showed in my game. There are dozens of other players like me who say nothing, are often ill at ease and even unhappy."

Definitely ill at ease was Korda, who hid conveniently behind the ongoing legal process that resulted from the positive test that he submitted at Wimbledon. His presence — ended by a third-round defeat — was a travesty for which the game's anti-doping programme was responsible.

The Czech won the latest round of legal jousting when the High Court ruled that the International Tennis Federation (ITF) was not entitled to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The ITF has 24 days to ponder a further appeal. The chances are that it will draw stumps, as it should. The anti-doping programme should be torn up and redrafted to ensure that players testing positive for "class one" substances, such as nandrolone, are banned immediately.

On the court, Kafelnikov progressed stealthily while other seeds were scattered on the breeze. In the absence of Pete Sampras, only five of the 16 seeds reached the fourth round, where they are projected to collide.

Korda: tainted by drugs controversy

Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski were not among them. Rusedski lacked confidence after a poor start to the year, while Henman underperformed against Marc Rosset and must rebound strongly over the next two months if he is to advance his world ranking. Rusedski must do likewise, for he is due to defend a sackload of ranking points gained over this period 12 months ago, when he was a winner in Antwerp and a finalist in both Split and Indian Wells.

Alex Corretja and Carlos Moyà, the Spaniards who contested the Association of Tennis Professionals Tour championships final in Hanover, both failed spectacularly, leaving Kafelnikov as the most likely short-term threat to Sampras's perennial dominance. Whether Sampras can afford to take too much time away from the game and still rule is open to question. He returns in San Jose, California, later this month, but the real test will come when he steps forward to defend his Wimbledon title.

MOTOR RACING: FORMER WORLD CHAMPION CONFIDENT THAT JORDAN WILL MAKE PRESENCE FELT

Hill sets sights on keeping pace with leaders

By Kevin Eason

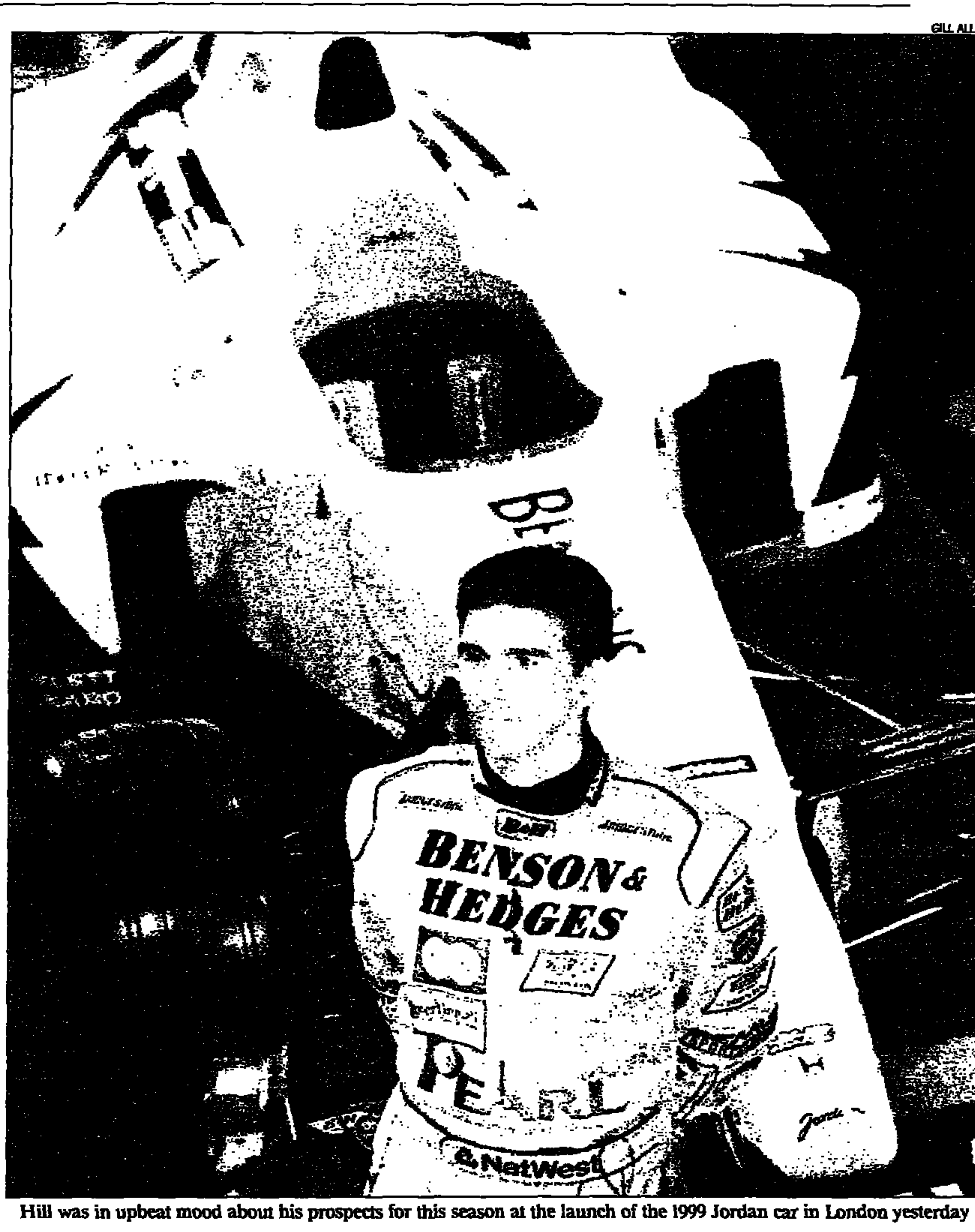
The venue was the London Palladium and the top turn a magician who made Jordan's new Formula One car appear from behind a huge green curtain. The conjuring came with an added act of confidence from Eddie Jordan and Damon Hill, who speculated on the possibility of winning more races with his Jordan team, to add to the maiden win he achieved in the Belgian Grand Prix last year.

The biggest trick will be to make it happen. Eddie Jordan spent seven seasons in Formula One before that debut victory, which came in the rain and mist of Spa-Francorchamps, and bitter experience has taught even the garrulous Irishman better than to talk up his chances before the wheels of his spectacular yellow cars have turned.

The Jordan team of 1999 is significantly different to that of last year, for it now knows how to win. Hill, the world champion in 1996, had brought the experience of victory to a team that had been starting to think that it might never happen, in spite of its technical brilliance and substantial funding from Benson & Hedges. Some speculated that Hill might be past his best, but Jordan said yesterday that his driver is excited about the prospect of a new season in a car with a powerful new Mugen Honda engine and a sleeker bodyshape.

"So many people said that Damon was making a mistake coming to drive for Jordan," Jordan said, "but he proved everybody wrong. He answered their criticisms on the track and he has taught the Jordan team the ability and experience of winning. Once you have done that, then you just have to move on and do it again."

GILL ALLEN



Hill was in upbeat mood about his prospects for this season at the launch of the 1999 Jordan car in London yesterday

Hill, 38, not only expects to win, but he wants a second world championship: "The other teams will have to have made some serious improvements if they are going to be ahead of us," he said. "I want to win more than one race this season. I want to be challenging and harassing for places and I am more pumped up than ever for what lies ahead.

"I want another championship and I feel we have a chance. It might be a slender chance, because we don't know what the other teams are doing, but, if we continue to improve at the rate that we improved last season, we will do well. We have to be realistic and we have a cautious approach, but the confidence in the team has encouraged me enormously."

> 'I want to be challenging and harassing for places'

Hill is a vital ingredient, but the signing of Heinz-Harald Frentzen brings a driver who has won a grand prix and who stands the chance of being more relaxed in the family environment of the Silverstone-based team than he was under the intense regime that he experienced at Williams.

Even with such confidence, the watchword for this Formula One season so far has been caution. McLaren astonished the sport last season with the margin of its dominance at the first grand prix and no team wants to tempt fate again.

Even Michael Schumacher is playing down his chances, in spite of Ferrari's insistence that his new car will be on the pace from the start of the first race in Melbourne on March 7. The German said: "My chances of winning the championship this year are probably 50-50. It will be similar to last year, I believe, with Ferrari and McLaren in the battle, but it will be closer, because we are all on the same tyres this time."

The closer it is, the more that Hill will enjoy the battle, for it will give him his best chance of the title since he parted company with Williams as the world champion in 1996.



SKI CLUB

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Runs to Resort	Off/p	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
Andorra								
Soldeu	80	90	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-4	29/1
Austria								
Kitzbühel	80	148	Good	Open	Powder	Fine	-3	30/1
Obergurgl	50	190	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-6	30/1
St Anton	90	420	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-7	29/1
Canada								
Lake Louise	136	177	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-2	1/2
France								
Alpe d'Huez	114	200	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-11	29/1
Argentière	100	350	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-5	29/1
Flaine	135	300	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-14	29/1
La Clusaz	130	220	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-3	29/1
La Tania	122	184	Good	Open	Powder	Fine	-7	29/1
Les Arcs	120	250	Good	Open	Heavy	Fine	-4	30/1
Megève	100	200	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-3	29/1
Méribel	90	180	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-8	28/1
Tignes	132	230	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-5	29/1
Val d'Isère	110	250	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-16	29/1
Valmorel	90	190	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-6	29/1
Italy								
Cortina	30	70	Fair	Hard	Crusty	Cloud	-5	29/1
Livigno	70	150	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-5	29/1
M di Campiglio	55	100	Good	Artificial	Packed	Fair	-4	28/1
Norway								
Geilo	70	70	Good	Open	Varied	Fair	-10	30/1
Switzerland								
Crans Montana	80	340	Good	Open	Powder	Fine	-8	29/1
Klosters	100	180	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-7	30/1
Saas Fee	55	220	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	-10	29/1
St Moritz	45	110	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-6	29/1
Verbier	95	200	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-13	31/1
Villars	80	170	Good	Open	Varied	Fine	-7	29/1
Wengen	110	120	Good	Open	Powder	Sun	-10	29/1
Zermatt	50	130	Good	Open	Varied	Cloud	-6	28/1
United States								
Aspen	100	123	Good	Open	Powder	Cloud	-4	1/2

http://www.skiclub.co.uk L = lower slopes. U = upper slopes

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

PINGUECULUM
(b) A fatty deposit in the eye. It appears as a small, raised, yellowish area on the horizontal mid-line of the sclera (white of the eye) on either side of the cornea. It is non-pathological, but can become large and red.

THYRISTOR
(c) A transistor in which one of the three electrodes (the control electrode) initiates the main current flow between the other two, but does not limit it. The device is used as an electronic switch.

CURCULIO
(a) A stout-bodied weevil of the beetle family. The best-known is the plum weevil. As you might infer, it attacks plums, apples, peaches and other fruit. Curculios hibernate on food rubbish, and in spring the female deposits eggs into holes that she has bored with a crescent-shaped cut nearby. Larvae emerge and pupate there for one month.

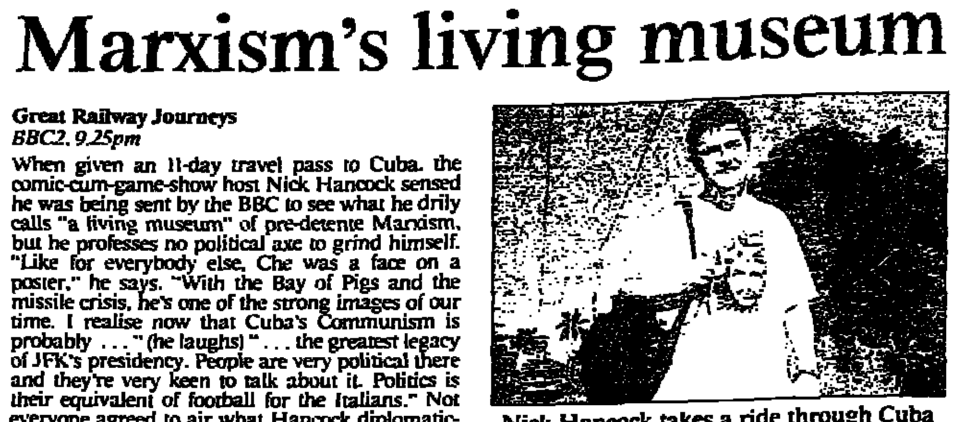
CHONDRULE
(b) A small rounded particle embedded in most stony meteorites or chondrites. Chondrules are about 1mm in diameter, and consist of silicate minerals, olivine and pyroxene. They were formed at high temperature as dispersed molten droplets before the planets accreted. It is unclear how they became molten.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1 ... Rf1+! 2 Kg2 (2 Rxf1 Qxf1+ 3 Kh2 Qh3+ and mates)
2 ... Qf2+! 3 Rxf2 R8xf2 checkmate

TELEVISION CHOICE

Marxism's living museum



Nick Hancock takes a ride through Cuba in *Great Railway Journeys* (BBC2, 9.25pm)

Great Railway Journeys
BBC2, 9.25pm

When given an 11-day travel pass to Cuba, the comic-cum-game-show host Nick Hancock sensed he was being sent by the BBC to see what he drily calls "a living museum" of pre-detente Marxism, but he professes no political axe to grind himself. "Like for everybody else, Che was a face on a poster," he says. "With the Bay of Pigs and the missile crisis, he's one of the strong images of our time. I realise now that Cuba's Communism is probably . . ." (he laughs) ". . . the greatest legacy of JFK's presidency. People are very political there and they're very keen to talk about it. Politics is their equivalent of football for the Italians." Not everyone agreed to air what Hancock diplomatically calls their "disquiet" on camera. "The blockade is the worst thing for them." The crew frequently had to improvise. "I'm glad we didn't go there with a plan of what film we wanted to make because we would never have made it."

Coming Clean: A Mug's Game
BBC2, 10.15pm

Not all of us are house-proud. "I don't see the point in cleanin' up," says one self-confessed slob "cos only I use it." Believe me, you wouldn't want to use his place, even as a dump. "I think you've been conditioned," a student tells her flat-mates conclusively. "You're turning into your mums." This three-part series from the *Video Nation* stable eschews the middle way between squalor and sterility. "I do not wash up," declares a woman drowning in debris. "I do not scrub . . ." All those who cleave to their crud are caught between defensiveness and defiance.

Swingers: Faithful to You In My Fashion
ITV, 10.40pm

Open marriage is hardly new, but the pitch for Joanna Bailey's documentary would seem to be that it's a contemporary phenomenon. Andy and Fiona "incorporate other people into their sexual relationship" though stopping short of penetration (they say). As so often in such arrangements, she inclines to resentment while he is always up for it. Oh, and he manages a club for fetishists. An older couple give sex dinners. A third couple have brought a voyeur ingredient to their sex, "a dangerous game" they agree. Bailey verifies the venerable aspect of permitted adultery with a widow's account of volunteering to share her husband many years ago. Says producer Frances Berrigan (the programme is made by women): "People are interested in exploring the swinging idea. They want to have a permanent relationship but find monogamy difficult."

Short Stories: Full Metal Backpack
Channel 4, 11.20pm

For cocky kids, *the* holiday destination is South-East Asia. Heads full of *The Deerhunter* and *Apocalypse Now*, they are the targets for a tourist economy whose chief asset is war glamour. Two Scots lads out to get a GI helmet ("the coolest thing out of Vietnam") are intercut with other travellers in this somewhat shaming essay by Dimitri Doganis, who also filmed it all. You are balefully reminded that one of modern life's worst nightmares is the British abroad. The couple bumming their way from bar to bar in Cambodia, patronising their hosts as they go, ought to be changed by seeing themselves on television. At least the earnest war romantic is made a little rueful by his experience: "It's slightly disappointing to come all this way and still be yourself." But you feel they all deserve their sense of letdown. **W. Stephen Gilbert**

RADIO CHOICE

Afternoon Play: The Dressmaker
Radio 4, 2.15pm

London, October 1949: Jamaican dress designer Jean Edwards has been worn down by the twin effects of rejection by the London fashion houses and a nightly trek into the City of London to clean offices. Jean (Angela Wynter) has come to Britain on the *Windrush* to escape the constraints of her Jamaican home and pursue a dream to be a designer. Every day she wears clothes she has designed and made herself but there is no progress. She is close to giving up and going home, only to get a letter saying that her father is ill and cannot work: "We depend on you now, Jean . . ." Then Jean meets an American jazz singer (a fine performance by Josette Bushell-Mingo) who proves to be just the clothes hanger Jean needs.

Behind The Brain
Radio 4, 9.00pm

The start of a new series that promises to be highly stimulating and, as a bonus, provide us with questions with which we can torment family and friends over dinner: as a starter, if a person counted the number of cells in the cortex at the rate of one per second, how long would it take? Answer: 32 million years. So the human brain is pretty big, in its small way, and is far better than anything produced by Microsoft. Tonight's opener explains what is meant by consciousness and why understanding matters. The presenter, Geoff Watts, and the producer, Rami Tzabar, have taken a determinedly non-scientific approach in the sense that explanations are related to ordinary experience rather than academic theory. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00pm** Kevin Greening **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Chris Moyles **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Dave Pearce **8.00** Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session **10.00** Digital Update **10.10** John Peel **12.00am** The Breezeblock **2.00** Emma B **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00pm** Jimmy Young **2.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** Sixpence for Superman. Bob Monkhouse and Denis Gifford present the story of British comics **10.00** Susan Jeffreys Says Make It a Double (5/6) **10.30** Richard Allinsons **12.00am** Katrina Leskanich **3.00** Mo Dutta

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell. Includes news from the closing stages on England's one-day game against Australia in Adelaide **12.00pm** The Midday News **1.00** Ruscoe and Co **4.00** Drive **7.00** News Extra **7.30** The Tuesday Match. Coverage of the night's top football action **10.00** Late Night Live with Nick Robinson **1.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00pm** My Favourite Year **1.00** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Peter Deeley **5.00** The SportZone **7.00** Eubank's People **8.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night

VIRGIN

6.30am Chris Evans **9.30** Mark Forrest **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Harriet Scott **6.45** Peter and Geoff **10.00** James Merritt **1.00am** Steve Power **4.30** Richard Allen

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Outlook **7.55** My Century **8.00** World News **8.05** Performance **8.20** Off the Shelf: Silas Marner **8.35** Discovery **9.00** World News **9.05** The Moonstone **9.20** Inspiration! **9.50** Sports Round-Up **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** Britain Today **10.45** Good Books **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00pm** World News **12.05** Outlook **12.45** Sports Round-Up **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Discovery **2.30** On Screen **3.00** World News **3.05** Sports Round-Up **3.15** Westway **3.30** Everywoman **4.00** World News **4.15** Insight **4.30** Megamix **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Round-Up **6.00** World News **6.15** Britain Today **6.30** Omnibus **7.00** World News **7.05** Discovery **7.30** Science Feedback **7.45** Off the Shelf: Silas Marner **8.00** Newshour **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.20** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian Live **10.00** World News **10.15** Sports Round-Up **10.30** Megamix **11.00** World News **11.05** Outlook **11.45** Insight **12.00am** The World Today **12.30** Discovery **12.55** My Century **1.00** The World Today **1.30** On Screen **2.00** The World Today **2.30** Women Who Dared To Speak **3.00** The World Today **3.20** Sports Round-Up **3.30** World Business Report **3.45** Insight **4.00** The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey's Easier Breakfast. Soothing music and information updates **8.00** Henry Kelly. Includes The Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week **12.00pm** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' favourite pieces of classical music **2.00** Concerto. Mozart (Violin Concerto No 3 in G major) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Includes regular information updates, Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance **6.30** Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces two hours of easy-listening sounds **9.00** Evening Concert. Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor), Grieg (Sonata No 3 in C minor), Elgar (Violin Concerto in B minor), Kreisler (Schon Rosmarin) **11.00** Mann at Night. Music and conversation for the early hours with Alan Mann **2.00am** Concerto. Mozart (Violin Concerto No 3 in G major) (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny. Includes Haydn (Overture to Acide e Galatea); Saint-Saens (Cello Sonata No 1)
9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday. Schubert (Two Scherzi, D593); Mozart (Clarinet Quintet in A, K581), Schubert (Piano Sonata in F sharp minor, D571, Unfinished); Tchaikovsky (The Nutcracker, excerpts)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Julia Varady
11.00 Sound Stories: Clerics Richard Baker explores the life and work of Martin Luther
12.00pm Composer of the Week: Liszt
1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert A song recital of settings from Goethe's *Faust* live from Belfast to mark the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Goethe's birth. Catherine Pierard, soprano, Henry Herford, baritone, Julius Drake, piano
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano. Rossini (Overture: The Thieving Magpie). Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat); Delius (The Walk to the Paradise Garden, A Village Romeo and Juliet); Elgar (Symphony No 2 in E flat)
4.00 Voices A recital of German romantic songs given by Ian Bostridge (r)
4.45 Music Machine with Tommy Pearson
5.00 In Tune Sean Rafferty presents news from the world of music and the arts
7.30 Performance on 3: Thesee The first complete performance since the 18th century of Lully's five-act opera, given last October in the Barbican by students from various European conservatoires conducted by the American William Christie. They gave their semi-staged performance in eight European cities under the auspices of the European Baroque Academy, Ambronay
10.15 Postscript: Outriders: Marc Karlin (2/5)
10.45 Night Waves Richard Coles talks to the novelist Edward White about his new life of Proust
11.30 Jazz Notes On the anniversary of Stan Getz's birth in 1927, the tenor saxophonist Spike Robinson leads his Quartet in a musical tribute
12.00am Composer of the Week: Tavener (r)
1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod **1.00** Beethoven (Symphony No 2 in D, Symphony No 3 in E flat, Eroica) **3.00** Schools: Playtime **3.15** Time to Move **3.35** Let's Make a Story **3.50** Drama Workshop **4.10** In the News **4.30** Hop, Skip and Jump **4.45** Anns a'bhad **5.05** William Brade. Consort music from the 1609 collection performed by Hesperion XX **5.40** Bach (Cantata No 23 Du Wahrer Gott und Davids Sohn)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today Presented by Charlotte Smith
6.00 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 No Triumph, No Tragedy Disabled achievers from America talk frankly with Peter White (5/6)
9.30 The New Recruit New bookmaker Julie Bennett discusses her profession with an old hand (4/5)
9.45 (LW) Daily Service
9.45 (FM) Serial: Best American Essays: Reading Aloud Nicholson Baker's account of his first public reading at the Edinburgh Book Festival
10.00 Woman's Hour Sheila McClennon presents Helen Mirren's audio diary from South Africa
11.00 Nature: The Swamp Insight into the natural life of a swamp (r)
11.30 Coming Alive The con-man Terry King has a head-to-head with Harry Howard, the master of crime and punishment in his neighbourhood
12.00pm (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Topical consumer news and investigations, with Trixie Rawlinson and Mark Whittaker
1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke
1.30 My Mistress Music New series about notorious mistresses, starting with the singing and dancing star Nell Gwyn, who became the King of England's concubine (1/5)
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: The Dressmaker Bonnie Greer's tale of Jamaican fashion designer Jean Edwards's quest for success. Starring Angela Wynter and Josette Bushell-Ming. See Choice
3.00 The Exchange 0870 010 0444 Eddie Mair assesses listeners' opinions of a topical issue
3.30 The Speech Makers A transsexual has difficulty trying to sound more feminine (2/4)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates the history of Britain
4.00 The Learning Curve Consumer's guide to education
4.30 Shop Talk Presented by Heather Payton
5.00 PM with Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents: the Butter Factor Comedy sketches with Gerard Foster, Dave Lamb, Gordon Southern, Tim Verrinder, Ben Ward and Richard Webb
7.00 The Archers Neil hits the woodwork
7.15 Front Row Francine Stock reports on *Hideous Kinky*, Kate Winslet's first film since *Titanic*
7.45 Speaking for Themselves (r)
8.00 File on 4 Gerry Northam reports on important issues and events around the world
8.40 In Touch Peter White with news for visually impaired people
9.00 Behind the Brain New series. Geoff Watts explores the greatest mystery in the science of the mind — human consciousness. See Choice (1/4)
9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy (r)
10.00 The World Tonight with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets Rik Mayall reads part seven of John Mortimer's murder-mystery
11.00 Late Night on 4: Angus Deayton's History of Alternative Comedy Angus Deayton presents a new series looking at the alternative comedy stars of yesterday, today and tomorrow (1/4)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
11.30 (FM) Talking Pictures Weekly guide to films and film-going, with Brian Sibley (r)
12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Lemona's Tale Adjoa Andoh reads the second part of Ken Saro-Wiwa's novel set in a Nigerian prison
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Docusoaps or fiction? Therein lies a tale

How could we all have been so gullible? That's what Channel 4 wanted to know in **Cutting Edge's** *Who's Been Framed?* How were we so easily taken in by that smile, that air of paternal caring? Only Channel 4 wasn't talking about Tony Blair but about Stuart Smith and Victoria Greetham, the pair who duped a film crew making a documentary called *Daddy's Girl* into believing that they were a very close father and daughter, when they were, in fact, lovers with just ten years between their ages.

Just hours before the film was due to be broadcast, Channel 4 pulled Edmund Coulthard's documentary ("It was a very effective, very clever scam," Coulthard told us last night, still blinking slightly with disbelief. "Stuart's a very clever conman") when Victoria's real father saw Stuart on a trailer for the film and blew the whistle. After scratching its head for a while, Channel 4 hit on what seemed an ingenious way of shedding some of its shame in public, whilst at the same time getting some use of the wasted film: it hired Riete Oord to make *another* documentary which showed just what a plausible conman Stuart is. It even tried to give it some sociological gloss by asking (nobody in particular) what makes people today so desperate for televisual fame that they'll even lie for months to a documentary crew just to get on the box?

You could see this as the sort of clever use of leftovers of which Mrs Beeton would approve. But you could also see this as the act of a man who — upon discovering that he has somehow bought less curtain fabric than needed to cover a window — decides to cut his losses by getting his tailor to run up a two-piece suit with the floral chintz, hoping nobody will notice that he's piling desperation on to disaster. To be fair, Peter Moore, who commissioned the film for Channel 4, was not trying to pretend he was wearing anything other than floral chintz last night. "It wasn't the problem that I most enjoyed having to sort out," he drawled, making neither light, nor heavy, of the drama. "It was embarrassing."

He wanted to strangle the couple, but: "Colleagues persuaded me that it would really be improper for us to be anything other than generous." In his final submission to the judge's bench, Moore added: "They're natural actors, aren't they really?" He thinks they should just join the RSC and be done with it.

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

So who's to blame? Television, probably. Not Channel 4, or Peter Moore, in particular. But rather the bacterial culture of docusoaps which have convinced frustrated Oliviers that every citizen not only has an opportunity to shine on television, but may have an inalienable right to do so. They witness the rewards of being a too-camp car clamper, or a hectoring manageress of a Liverpool hotel, or a ropey learner-driver, and think — why don't I have a go? But we — and Stuart and Victoria — are also all media-savvy enough to know what a television crew wants; we know what makes a story "sexy". This is why you can no longer stop a passer-by on the street even to ask them the time without their insisting that you direct any approaches through their agent.

Channel 4 may have been hoping that it could make a virtue of the fiasco by passing off the Smith/Greetham hoax as an intriguing milestone in Post-Modern television. But it mostly looked as though it was trying to cover up a fake with floral chintz. Maybe Coulthard was just unlucky enough to be caught. Who knows? The manageress of the Adelphi might be a sweetheart really. Maybe Ray weeps bitter tears into his pillow every night, asking himself — why, oh why do I have to clamp nice people's cars for a living?

Perhaps in a deliberate piece of scheduling designed to show us that it is not the first, or only, sucker to be taken in by apparently convincing appearances, Channel 4 last night also broadcast **Riddle of the Skies**, the first of three documentaries which seem to be aiming to prove to us once and for all that there are only so many filmed sightings of UFOs, which is why programmes about the possibility of extraterrestrial visitors all tend to look the same.

Sightings of similar programmes over the years have done nothing definitively to prove or disprove the existence of UFOs, and until the pendulum swings one way or the other there doesn't seem much to be gained by repeating the same film clips and arguments.

Why doesn't the UFO industry die in the absence of evidence? Because UFO-watchers don't want it to. What the hoaxer who devised crop circles found remarkable was not that people believed crop circles were the work of visitors from another planet, but that they continued to believe this even after he had explained how he'd made them. Because we *know* Elvis is dead, we just snigger at reported sightings of him. But because we can't *disprove* that ET's among us, then the conspiracy-obsessed UFO industry flourishes. There probably *is* intelligent life elsewere in the Universe, but that doesn't mean it would want to visit us just because it knows where we are any more than you visit Morecambe just because you know where it is.

Strangely, the most chillingly authentic flavour of life in Britain could be seen in **The League of Gentlemen** (BBC2), a barkingly mad, Gothic comedy set in the northern town of Royston Vasey which paints a more recognisable portrait of certain aspects of British life than many factual documentaries ever manage. But wait a second! What if the show's a big hoax? What if it isn't acted from a script? What if Royston Vasey actually exists? Now *that's* scary!

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (12376)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (58005)
9.00 Kilroy (T) (8381869)
9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4780444)
10.55 News; Weather (T) (6852208)
11.00 Real Rooms (6862685)
11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (6832444)
11.55 News; Weather (T) (1015531)
12.00pm Call My Bluff (29444)
12.30 Wipeout (1912573)
12.55 The Weather Show (T) (48588395)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (51192)
1.30 Regional News; Weather (47200463)
1.40 Neighbours Joel learns the truth about Sally's past (T) (25196918)
2.05 Ironside The Chief witnesses an attack on a young woman. Detective drama, starring Raymond Burr (r) (3243579)
2.55 Body Spies Healthy fast food (5597869)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6410598) **3.45** The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (2397482) **3.55** Hububb (3437173) **4.10** Chipmunks Go to the Movies (3622208) **4.35** The Really Wild Show (5275463) **5.00** Newsround (2715531) **5.10** Grange Hill (6367173)
5.33 Rewind (T) (232869)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (455260)
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (37)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (89)
7.00 Holiday Thelma Barlow goes for a Caribbean cruise aboard the largest liner ever built and Ian McCaskill checks out the winter sun in Gran Canaria (T) (8314)
7.30 EastEnders Michael decides to come clean to Susan (T) (73)
8.00 Holby City A coma victim contracts pneumonia, leaving Doctors McKendrick and Collins to help her parents make an agonising decision. Starring Phyllis Logan and Dawn McDaniel (T) (762260)
8.50 8.50 to Paddington Green The auditions for *Annie* get under way — but some of the children find showbusiness tough going (3/6) (T) (842753)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1005)
9.30 Paddington Green After two years of preparation, Sameer Vaswani's restaurant finally opens (T) (74482)



Madeleine Stowe and Richard Dreyfuss star (10pm)

10.00 Stakeout (1987) Comedy thriller about a Seattle cop who falls for a suspected murderer's former girlfriend while maintaining a surveillance operation on her. Richard Dreyfuss, Madeleine Stowe and Emilio Estevez star. Directed by John Badham (T) (640227)
11.55 Flesh and Bone (1993) Atmospheric drama about a salesman whose life is changed by an exciting young woman he meets on his travels. Dennis Quaid, Meg Ryan and James Caan star. Directed by Steve Kloves (T) (770227)
1.55am Weather (8999574)
2.00 BBC News 24 (5385715)

BBC2

7.00am CBBC Breakfast Show: Little Polar Bear (3548918) **7.05** Teletubbies (6459260) **7.30** Secret Squirrel (6245227) **7.55** Blue Peter (9873050) **8.20** Taz-Mania (7337208) **8.40** Polka Dot Shorts (3316956) **8.50** Oakie Doke (3305840) **9.00** German Globo (5033983) **9.10** Working It Out (1633127) **9.25** Techno (4126376) **9.45** Numbertime (1216753) **10.00** Teletubbies (45043) **10.30** Watch (2213647) **10.45** Science Zone (7265937) **11.05** Space Ark (8748482) **11.15** Megamaths (9264258) **11.35** Words and Pictures (8922598) **11.50** History File (8909647) **12.10pm** English Express (9979376) **12.30** Working Lunch (52260) **1.00** Oakie Doke (94561685)
1.10 The Travel Hour (r) (9225647)
2.10 Sporting Greats Eamonn Holmes talks to Martin Peters (61371956)
2.40 News; Weather (T) (3633734)
2.45 Westminster (T) (2180376)
3.25 News; Weather (T) (3202294)
3.30 Turning Points (2383289)
3.35 The Natural World (r) (T) (2710208)
4.25 The Journey of Natty Gann (1985) A girl embarks on an amazing odyssey across Depression-era America to find her missing father. Directed by Jeremy Kagan (T) (29065032)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air American teen comedy (r) (T) (591024)
6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (915579)
7.10 The O Zone Whitney Houston talks about her first studio album for eight years and her career in film (T) (887753)
7.20 Ski Sunday Special Live coverage of the men's Super-G at the World Championships in Colorado (8560227)
8.30 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey Stein visits a beach in Queensland and prepares a spicy squid salad (T) (4111)



More vintage comedy with Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise (9pm)

9.00 The Morecambe and Wise Show Ernie throws a cocktail party (r) (T) (601869)
9.25 CHOICE **Great Railway Journeys** Nick Hancock travels through Cuba by rail (T) (565005)
10.15 CHOICE **Coming Clean: The Truth About Housework** New series. Three people reveal why they don't do housework (T) (617840)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (T) (513685)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (197314)
11.15 Seinfeld (T) (116579)
11.35 The Larry Sanders Show Beverly's pregnancy causes a stir (T) (989647)
11.55 Weather (404666)
12.00am Despatch Box (89116)
12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University: The Arch Never Sleeps **1.00** Soaring Achievements **1.30** The Secret of Sporting Success **2.00** Schools: Mathsphere Edits **4.00** The French Experience **5.00** Career Moves — Survival Skills **5.45** Open University: Climates of Opinion **6.35** Just Seventeen

HTV

5.30am ITN Morning News (65956)
6.00 GMTV (8717050)
9.25 Trisha (T) (5741395)
10.30 This Morning (T) (11648802)
12.15pm HTV News (T) (7417531)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (89314)
1.00 Shortland Street James gets his comeuppance (46260)
1.30 Home and Away Joey makes a momentous decision (T) (88685)
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5169734)
2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (857208)
3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (5002276)
3.20 HTV News (T) (8252799)
3.25 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (9402032) **3.35** Rosie and Jim (3442005) **3.50** The Wombles (2389463) **4.00** Cow and Chicken (6588395) **4.25** Mike and Angelo (3605531) **4.50** How 2 (7999444)
5.10 A Country Practice Tom discovers his ex-wife has had a baby (9507463)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weather (T) (780109)
5.59 HTV Crimestoppers (206444)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (588550)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (T) (298314)
6.25 HTV Weather (658918)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (85)
7.00 Emmerdale Mandy and Tricia come to blows (T) (3482)
7.30 WEST: West Eye View Current affairs reports from around the region (69)
7.30 WALES: Fishlock's Wild Tracks A visit to Tenby (T) (69)
8.00 The Bill Boyden meets a pretty young woman at a nightclub, and ends up regretting it (T) (7173)
9.00 Peak Practice David lives on borrowed time with Patricia as his wife discovers he's been lying to her (5/13) (T) (7937)
10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (55869)
10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (496227)



Geoff and Kathy: celebrating swinging as a way of life (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Swingers: Faithful To You In My Fashion** Intimate account of three couples' non-monogamous sexual lifestyles (T) (289734)
11.40 WEST: Pleasure Guide Regional entertainment magazine (604444)
11.40 WALES: Anatomy of Disaster The damage caused by floods (325395)
12.10am The Making of Very Bad Things Feature on the comedy thriller starring Cameron Diaz (6372932)
12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5984999)
1.10 Highlander MacLeod and Charlie come to the aid of an Indian woman on the run with a baby (r) (7391680)
2.05 Planet Rock Profiles Footage of Bristol's Massive Attack (7108628)
2.35 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (9491721)
3.05 Judge Judy (r) (T) (55854796)
3.25 Football Extra (r) (6361574)
4.20 Coach (39837425)
4.45 ITV Nightscreen (1073999)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: **12.20pm-12.30 Central News;** Weather (T) (8816453) **1.00 Headliners** (5/6) (r) (46260) **1.30 The Jerry Springer Show** (T) (1910024) **2.15-2.45 Home and Away** (T) (858937) **3.20-3.25 Central News** (T) (8252799) **5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (9507463) **6.25-7.00 Central News;** Weather (T) (298314) **7.30-8.00 Landladies** (3/6) (T) (69) **10.30-10.40 Central News;** Weather (T) (496227) **11.40-12.45 Renegade** (164956) **4.15am Central Jobfinder '99** (T) (6457488) **5.20-5.30 Asian Eye** (7725864)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: **12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (7417531) **12.27-12.30 Illuminations** (8824482) **1.00 Emmerdale** (r) (T) (46260) **1.30 The Jerry Springer Show** (T) (1910024) **2.15-2.45 Home and Away** (T) (858937) **3.20-3.25 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (8252799) **5.08 Birthday People** (5609269) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9507463) **6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live** (T) (64005) **7.30-8.00 Wild West Country** (3/6) (T) (69) **10.30-10.40 Westcountry News;** Weather (T) (496227) **11.40-12.10 Power Game** (604444)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: **12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News;** Weather (7417531) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9507463) **6.00 Meridian Tonight** (T) (55) **6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs** (3/10) (85) **7.30-8.00 Wildlife SOS** (69) **10.30-10.40 Meridian News;** Weather (T) (496227) **11.40 Cyber Cafe** (604444) **12.10am-12.40 Hope and Gloria** (6372932) **5.00-5.30 Freescreen** (T) (74845)

ANGLIA

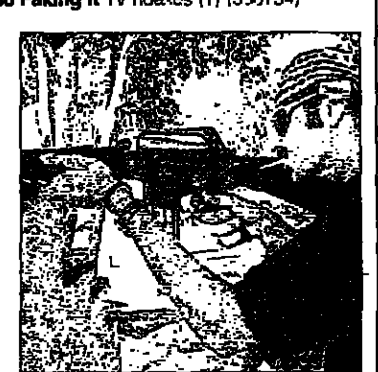
As HTV West except: **12.19pm Anglia Air Watch** (8835598) **12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather** (8816463) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (T) (9507463) **5.59 Anglia Weather** (T) (206444) **6.00 Anglia News** (T) (55) **6.30-7.00 About Anglia** (85) **7.30-8.00 Liza's Country** (3/6) (69) **10.29 Anglia Air Watch** (500111) **10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather** (T) (496227) **11.40 Crime Night** (510666) **11.55 Go Fishing** (2/6) (r) (633956) **12.25am-12.40 Soundtrax** (6419512)

S4C

Starts: **6.00am Sesame Street** (r) (47971192) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (34415956) **9.00 Ysgolion:** Science in Focus (93565821) **9.20 What the Papers Say** (43704821) **9.30 Eureka!** (94533227) **9.45 Eritrea** (94521482) **10.00 The Number Crew** (65018821) **10.10 TVM** (20959024) **10.25 How We Used to Live** (20938531) **10.45 Worlds of Faith** (83161647) **11.00 First Edition** (95883192) **11.15 Stage One** (95806043) **11.30 Powerhouse** (T) (40997937) **12.00pm Bewitched** (T) (29807550) **12.30 Sesame Street** (r) (T) (38452937) **1.00 Planed Plant** (T) (34418043) **1.30 Roots to Success** (T) (27032821) **1.50 FILM: Way of a Gaucho** (80959591) **3.30 Hampton Court Palace** (T) (81340821) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (T) (81369956) **4.30 Ricki Lake** (T) (81358840) **5.00 Planed Plant** (64839531) **5.30 Countdown** (T) (81349192) **6.00 Newyddion 6** (T) (54651314) **6.10 Heno** (T) (16527821) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (T) (64859395) **7.30 Newyddion** (T) (81366869) **8.00 Y Sioe Gelf** (T) (64868043) **8.30 Pengelli** (T) (64847550) **9.00 Station X** (3/4) (T) (35361573) **10.00 Brookside** (T) (60549260) **10.35 Riddle of the Skies** (1/3) (T) (22924294) **11.35 Short Stories** (T) (63809753) **12.05am The Real Holiday Show** (8/8) (T) (19930951) **12.35 Short Stories** (26622574) **1.05 The Real Don Giovanni** (T) (13751970) **2.05 Diwedd 4.00 Ysgolion:**

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (38314)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (74043)
9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (4132937) **9.20** What the Papers Said (6486463) **9.30** Eureka (1213666) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (1201821) **10.00** The Number Crew (6747531) **10.10** TVM (9461314) **10.25** How We Used to Live (9440821) **10.45** Worlds of Faith (2236598) **11.00** First Edition VI (8586531) **11.15** Stage One (T) (8509482)
11.30 Powerhouse (T) (5208)
12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (45482)
12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (87956)
1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (44802)
1.30 Earthscape The sloth (90840395)
1.35 The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw (1958) Comedy western, starring Kenneth More as an Englishman mistaken for a gunslinger (T) (38526043)
3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (63)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (98)
4.30 Countdown (T) (5269802)
4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (3823005)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (34)
6.00 Dishes Dating show (T) (47)
6.30 Home Improvement (T) (27)
7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (940550)
7.50 Music of the Millennium The pianist Joanna MacGregor (T) (579482)
8.00 Brookside (T) (7444)
8.30 Classic Aircraft A look at the vital role helicopters play (6/8) (T) (6579)
9.00 Station X The development of the Bombe at Bletchley Park (3/4) (T) (5579)
10.00 Father Ted A raunchy novelist visits the island (r) (T) (46111)
10.30 Faking It TV hoaxes (T) (550734)



One of the young travellers in search of the spoils of war (11.20pm)

11.20 CHOICE **Short Stories: Full Metal Backpack** Dimitri Doganis follows three very different sets of travellers (T) (830647)
11.50 Dope Sheet (T) (104024) **12.25am Beyond Dope Sheet Introduction** (2458116) **12.35 Body Projections** (2743932) **12.45 LMX Spiral** (7735777) **12.50 Heavy Stock** A train journey (2764425) **1.00 Love Story** Animation (6394883) **1.10 Salvage** Montage of ads (5819116) **1.15 How to Get Rid of Information** A restless night (6399338) **1.25 His Comedy** (5847999) **1.30 Colour Box** (6110203) **1.40 Motion Painting 1** (6149715) **1.50 23 Rue des Martyrs** (8916241) **1.55 Within/Without** (T) (6128222) **2.10 15th February** A rejected declaration of love (T) (7891947) **2.15 Jumping Joan** Evocation of a lonely childhood (T) (4899796) **2.25 Time** Typographic sequence (8041280) **2.30 Improvision No 6** (4666593)
2.35 Jack Ahoy! (1934) Accident-prone Navy recruit Jack Hulbert proves his worth by rescuing the love of his life from Chinese pirates. Walter Forde directs (1967319)
4.00 Schools: Science in Focus (26845)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Current events (6665802)
7.00 WideWorld Part three. Mark Chase assesses gender differences in product design (r) (T) (6230043)
7.30 Milkshake! (3799717)
7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (3492869)
8.00 Havakazoo (r) (4268043)
8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (4267314)
9.00 Weather Front (r) (1950550)
9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (7685821)
9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6338005)
10.20 Sunset Beach Tyus confirms Michael is sterile (T) (1345598)
11.10 Leeza (4747821)
12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4238802)
12.30 Family Affairs Maria makes a rash decision (r) (T) (9280376)
1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Ridge's return from Paris is delayed (T) (6239314)
1.30 The Roseanne Show Entertaining chat with the Emmy Award-winning comedian; 5 News Update (9289647)
2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5435376)
2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle magazine, incorporating real-life soap *Liverpool Mums*, *Selling the Family Silver* with Eric Knowles, and word game *Cryptogram*, 5 News Update (1088956)
3.30 Bye Bye Braverman (1968) Four Jewish friends reminisce about past adventures during a journey to pay their last respects to a recently deceased buddy. Comedy, starring George Segal. Directed by Sidney Lumet (T) (9072918)
5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 News Update (6443799)
6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz (6685821)
6.30 Family Affairs Dave has a narrow escape (T) (6676173)
7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (5439192)
7.30 Wild Water The story of how a seal ended up with an enormous scar on his muzzle (T), 5 News Update (6605685)
8.00 Killer Weather America's worst weather catastrophes, including the story of a woman whose husband saved her life seconds before he was killed by a tornado, and a "storm chaser" struck by lightning during a thunderstorm in Ohio (r) (T), 5 News Update (1527314)
9.00 The Vanishing (1993) A man becomes obsessed with his girlfriend's mysterious disappearance and embarks on an epic three-year quest to discover her whereabouts. Director George Sluizer's Hollywood remake of his acclaimed French psychological thriller, starring Jeff Bridges, Kiefer Sutherland, Nancy Travis and Sandra Bullock. Directed by George Sluizer (T); 5 News Update (1597173)
11.00 Two Gus hitches with Walter and Sydney Quinn — landing him in yet more trouble, and on the run from more than just the FBI (7721956)
11.55 The Jack Docherty Show With The Divine Comedy (7147111)
12.35am Live and Dangerous Action from the AMA Supercross (34618406)
3.45 Asian Football Show Weekly round-up (3622593)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H The end of the fete spells disaster (8052375)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9220932)

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PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (94821) **7.30** Chris Evans (57192) **8.30** Hollywood Squares (74918) **9.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (69753) **10.00** Oprah Winfrey (40640) **11.00** Guilty! (99376) **12.00pm** Jenny Jones (15753) **1.00** Mad About You (93192) **1.30** Jeopardy (21519) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (57302) **3.00** Jenny Jones (20111) **4.00** Guilty! (16918) **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (3685) **6.00** Married with Children (9519) **6.30** Dream Team (4869) **7.00** Simpsons (7774) **7.30** Simpsons (3753) **8.00** Rescue Medics (6734) **8.30** Coppers (5869) **9.00** World's Wildest Police Videos (47376) **10.00** Greece Uncovered (40463) **11.00** Dream Team (17647) **11.30** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (72482) **12.30am** The Commish (31203) **1.30** Long Play (7982574)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels.
To view any film telephone 0990 800888
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26)
Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996)
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)
The Borrowers (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
The Wings of the Dove (1997)
The Devil's Advocate (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)
Fathers' Day (1997)

FILMFOUR

6.00pm Les Enfants Du Paradis (1945) (38378640) **7.40** Sunny Spells (1229918) **8.00** Visions of Light (89689444) **9.35** Confession (1603173) **10.00 Riff-Raff (1990)** (6077685) **11.45 Made in USA (1966)** (3699937) **1.10am Le Doulos (1962)** (6227425) **3.00 Barry Lyndon (1975)** (5506135) **6.00** Close

SKY PREMIER

6.00am House Calls (1978) (26289) **8.00 The Lies He Told (1996)** (79024) **10.00 Never Too Late (1996)** (71096) **12.00pm** The Directors: Ron Howard (21573) **1.00** Hollywood Buzz (17111) **2.00 House Calls (1978)** (62685) **4.00 The Lies He Told (1996)** (2531) **6.00 Never Too Late (1996)** (4252) **8.00 The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997)** (39717685) **10.10 The Fan (1996)** (23309111) **12.15am A Thin Line Between Love and Hate (1996)** (629970) **2.05 The Portrait of a Lady (1996)** (93428425) **4.30** The Directors (40222)

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.25am Action Heroes: Eddie Murphy (90730314) **7.00 Family Blessings (1996)** (85173) **9.00 The Fallen Sparrow (1943)** (68918) **11.00 Forgotten City of the Planet of the Apes (1974)** (35802) **1.00pm Cosmic Shock (1997)** (62734) **3.00 And Baby Makes Six (1979)** (83598) **5.00 Family Blessings (1996)** (84395) **7.00 Cosmic Shock (1997)** (40395) **8.30 Captive (1998)** (22024) **10.00** Sundance Film Festival (35531) **11.00 Next of Kin (1989)** (307260) **12.50am In the Name of Love: A Texas Tragedy (1995)** (877715) **2.30 I, The Jury (1982)** (20970) **4.30 The Fallen Sparrow (1943)** (675715)

SKY CINEMA

4.00pm The Yellow Canary (1943) (7922685) **6.00 The Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox (1976)** (1384005) **8.00 Obsession (1948)** (1389550) **10.00** 100 Years (8478519) **10.55 A Place in the Sun (1951)** (69517666) **1.00am Zorba the Greek (1964)** (85776661) **3.20** Hollywood Hall of Famer William Holden (72329425) **3.50 The Lineup (1958)** (16436845)

TNT

9.00pm High Society (1956) (92423579) **11.00 The Cincinnati Kid (1965)** (40720840) **1.00am The Liquidator (1966)** (40788864) **3.00 High Society (1956)** (51234654) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre **7.15** League Review **8.15** You're On Sky Sports! **9.00** Racing News **9.30** Aerobics **10.00** Spanish Football **12.00pm** Aerobics **12.30** World Windsurfing **1.00** Football Special **3.30** Triathlon **4.30** World Windsurfing **5.00** Wrestling **6.00** Sports Centre **6.30** Inside Scottish Football **7.30** Fastrax **8.00** Live Greyhound Racing **10.00** Sports Centre **10.15** You're On Sky Sports! **11.00** Inside Scottish Football **12.00am** Sports Centre **12.15** You're On Sky Sports! **1.00** Premier Snooker League **3.00** Sports Centre **3.15** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics **7.30** Sports Centre **7.45** Racing News **8.15** World Windsurfing **8.45** Sports Centre **9.00** World Motor Sport **12.00pm** V-Max **12.30** Live International Cricket **7.00** Live FA Cup Special **10.00** Fastrax **10.30** International Cricket **12.30am** FA Cup Special **2.30** Fastrax **3.00** V-Max **3.30** Live International Cricket

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wrestling **1.00** Fish TV **2.00** Wonderful World of Golf **3.00** A to Z of Motor Sport **3.30** World Motor Sport **6.30** Sports Unlimited **7.30** Fish TV **8.00** Premier Snooker League **10.00** Boxing Superbouts **11.00** Olympic Series **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Bobsleigh **8.00** Ski-Jumping **9.00** Extreme Sports **10.00** Women's Skiing **11.00** Eurogoals **12.30pm** Car on Ice **1.00** Cycling **2.00** Bobsleigh **3.00** Ski-Jumping **4.00** Women's Skiing **5.00** Extreme Sports **6.00** Eurogoals **7.30** Live Skiing **8.30** Live Boxing **11.00** US Golf **12.00am** Extreme Sports **12.30** Close

UK GOLD

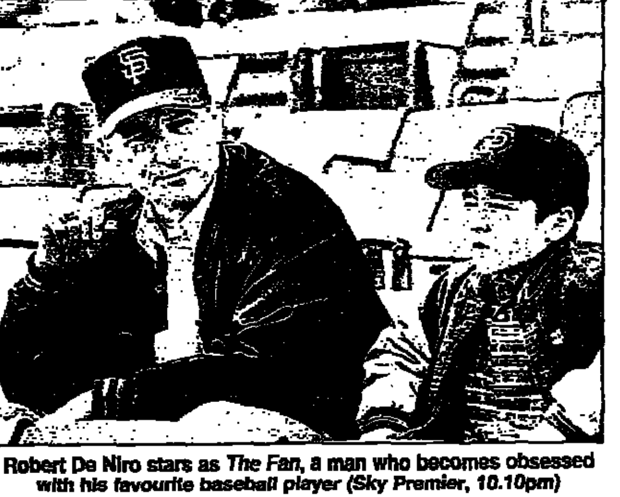
7.00am Crossroads **7.30** Neighbours **7.55** EastEnders **8.30** The Bill **9.30** The House of Eliott **10.30** Rhoda **11.00** Dallas **11.55** Neighbours **12.25pm** EastEnders **1.00** Juliet Bravo **2.00** Dallas **2.55** The Bill **3.55** EastEnders **4.30** Rhoda **5.00** All Creatures Great and Small **6.00** Dynasty **7.00** 2point4 Children **7.40** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum **8.20** The Detectives **9.00** Red Dwarf **9.35** Red Dwarf **10.15** Red Dwarf **10.50** Red Dwarf **11.25** Red Dwarf **12.00am** Red Dwarf III **12.35** The Bill **1.30** Spender **2.45** Shopping

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Within These Walls **7.00** On the Buses **7.30** Doctor in the House **8.00** Beadle's About **8.30** Up the Garden Path **9.00** Classic Coronation St **9.30** Emmerdale Farm **10.00** thirtysomething **11.00** Hawaii Five-O **12.00pm** Classic Coronation St **12.30** Emmerdale Farm **1.00** Nearest and Dearest **1.30** Agony **2.00** thirtysomething **3.00** The Love Boat **4.00** The Saint **5.00** Hawaii Five-O **6.00** Emmerdale Farm **6.30** Classic Coronation St **7.00** Mission: Impossible **8.00** The Love Boat **9.00** Classic Coronation St **9.30** The Comedians **10.00** Jokers Wild **10.30** Hogan's Heroes **11.00** Granada Men and Motors

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House **6.25** Classic Toons **6.35** Gummi Bears **7.00** Classic Toons **7.10** Aladdin **7.35** 101 Dalmatians **8.00** Goof Troop **8.25** Classic Toons **8.45** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh **9.00** Spot **9.05** Animal Shelf **9.15** Pocket Dragons **9.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **9.55** Toothbrush Family **10.00** Bite Size **10.10** Tots TV **10.30** Big Garage **10.45** PB and J Otter **11.00** Sesame Street **12.00pm** Spot **12.05** Animal Shelf **12.15** Pocket Dragons **12.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **12.55** Toothbrush Family **1.00** Bite Size **1.10** Tots TV **1.30** Big Garage **1.45** PB and J Otter **2.00** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh **2.30** Quack Pack **3.00** The Little Mermaid **3.30** Art Attack **4.00** 101 Dalmatians **4.30** Hercules: The TV Show **5.00** Recess **5.15** Pepper Ann **5.30** Smart Guy **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00** Honey I Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show **7.50** Classic Toons **8.00** FILM: **The Incredible Genie (1997)** **9.30** Home Improvement **10.00** Dinosaurs **10.30** The Wonder Years **11.00** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman **12.00am** Close



Robert De Niro stars as *The Fan*, a man who becomes obsessed with his favourite baseball player (Sky Premier, 10.10pm)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo **6.30** Power Rangers Turbo **7.00** Mortal Kombat **7.25** Oggy and the Cockroaches **7.30** Donkey Kong Country **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam and Max **8.35** Spiderman **9.00** X-Men **9.25** Fantastic Four **9.50** The Incredible Hulk **10.05** Casper **10.30** Oggy and the Cockroaches **10.55** The Mouse and the Monster **11.05** Eek!Stravaganza **11.30** Life with Louie **11.55** Home to Rent **12.05pm** Sam and Max **12.30** Donkey Kong Country **1.00** Mowgli: The New Adventures of Jungle Book **1.25** Ace Ventura **1.50** Spiderman **2.15** X-Men **2.40** Fantastic Four **3.05** The Incredible Hulk **3.30** Roy and Lisa's Big Ride **3.35** Mortal Kombat **4.00** Spiderman **4.25** Mowgli: The New Adventures of Jungle Book **4.50** Home to Rent **5.00** Goosebumps **5.25** Eerie Indiana: The Other Dimension **5.50** Oggy and the Cockroaches **5.55** Donkey Kong Country **6.25** Sam and Max **6.50** Eek!Stravaganza **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Muppet Babies **6.30** Rocko's Modern Life **7.00** CatDog **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** The Wild Thornberrys **8.30** Arthur **9.00** Children's BBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear/Budgie the Little Helicopter/Animal Antics/Family Ness **12.00pm** Rugrats **12.30** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Little Bear Stories **2.00** Clangers/King Rollo/Wombles/Bod **2.30** Children's BBC **3.00** Children's BBC **3.30** Pippi Longstocking **4.00** Hey Arnold! **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Driven Crazy **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am USA High **7.30** City Guys **8.00** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **8.30** Hang Time **9.00** Tempest **10.00** Echo Point **10.30** Hollyoaks **11.00** Sweet Valley High **11.30** Ready or Not **12.00pm** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **12.30** In the House **1.00** Sweat **1.30** Tempest **2.30** Hollyoaks **3.00** Ready or Not **3.30** City Guys **4.00** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air **4.30** In the House **5.00** Saved by the Bell: The New Class **5.30** Sweet Valley High **6.00** USA High **6.30** Rush **6.45** Bangs **7.00** Sweat **7.30** Hang Time

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team **9.00** LAPD **9.30** Cops **10.00** Extreme Championship Wrestling **10.30** Erotic Series **11.00** FILM: **To Live and Die in LA (1985)** **1.15am** Sex Bytes **1.50** Erotic Series **2.20** Extreme Championship Wrestling **2.50** Short **3.05** FILM: **Pandemonium (1982)** **5.00** LAPD **5.30** Bushido **6.00** Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Clueless **7.30** Grace Under Fire **8.00** Ellen **8.30** News Radio **9.00** Cybill **9.30** Vic Reeves Big Night Out **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Cheers **11.00** Seinfeld **11.30** The Larry Sanders Show **12.00am** Late Night with David Letterman **1.00** Taxi **1.30** The Critic **2.00** Dr Katz **2.30** Tibs and Fibs **3.00** Nightstand **3.30** Abbot and Costello **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY

7.30am Bloomberg Information Television **8.00** Sightings **9.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **10.00** Quantum Leap **11.00** Dark Shadows **11.30** New Alfred Hitchcock **12.00pm** The Twilight Zone **12.30** The Twilight Zone **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** Amazing Stories **2.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **3.00** Buck Rogers in the 25th Century **4.00** The Incredible Hulk **5.00** Sightings **6.00** Time Trax **7.00** Quantum Leap **8.00** V **9.00** Lexx **10.00** FILM: **Bombshell (1996)** **12.00am** Dark Skies **1.00** FILM: **Zone 39 (1993)** **2.45** Sci-Focus Special **3.00** The Twilight Zone **3.30** Dark Shadows **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

6.00am Today's Gourmet **6.30** Graham Kerr **7.00** Craftwise **7.30** The Painted House **8.00** Wedding Story **8.30** A Baby Story **9.00** Simply Painting **9.25** The Home and Leisure House **9.30** The Great Garden Game **10.00** Bloom **10.30** Cookabout with Greg and Max **11.00** Two's Country — Get Stuck In **11.30** Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures **12.00pm** Our House Down Under **12.30** Doing It Up **1.00** Our House **1.30** Hometime **2.00** New Yankee Workshop **2.30** Home Again with Bob Vila **3.00** This Old House with Steve and Norm **3.30** Go Fishing

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Specials **4.30** Walker's World **5.00** Wheel Nuts **5.30** History's Turning Points **6.00** Animal Doctor **6.30** Adventures of the Quest **7.30** Beyond 2000 **8.00** Great Escapes **8.30** Survivor **9.00** Trailblazers **10.00** Lives of Fire: Consumed by Life **11.00** Legion of the Damned **12.00am** Buried Alive **1.00** History's Turning Points **1.30** Wheel Nuts **2.00** Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Going Wild with Jeff Corwin **12.30** Wild at Heart **1.00** Nature Watch with Julian Pettifer **1.30** Crocodile Hunter **2.00** Breed All About It **2.30** Human/Nature **3.30** Harry's Practice **4.00** Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures **4.30** Animal Doctor **5.00** Pet Rescue **5.30** Crocodile Hunter **6.00** The New Adventures of Black Beauty **6.30** Lassie **7.00** Rediscovery of the World **8.00** Animal Doctor **8.30** Totally Australia **9.30** Emergency Vets **10.00** The Last Paradises **10.30** Animal Detectives **11.00** All-Bird TV **11.30** Emergency Vets **12.00am** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Season of the Salmon **7.30** Circus of Dreams **8.00** Orphans in Paradise **9.00** Natural Born Killers: Eagles — Shadows on the Wing **10.00** The Chemistry of War **11.00** Cats **12.00am** The Shark Files: Quest for the Basking Shark

HISTORY

4.00pm The World at War: Nemesis **5.00** Ironclads **6.00** Human Sacrifice **7.00** Biography: Joseph Stalin

CARLTON FOOD

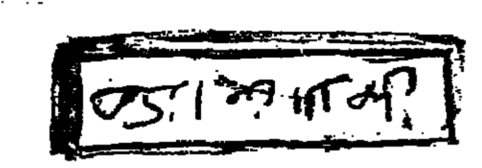
9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** Green Gourmet **10.30** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.00** What's Cooking? **11.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **12.00pm** Food Network Daily **12.30** Surprise Chefs **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** Thoroughly Modern British **2.00** Chez Bruno **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Winter Noch **3.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **4.00** Rustie's Real Cooks **4.30** Lunch with Ed Baines

LIVING

6.00am Tiny and Crew **6.20** Johnson and Friends **6.30** Philbert the Frog **6.40** Tiny Tales **6.45** Greedysaurus and the Gang **6.50** Polka Dot Shorts **7.00** Practical Parenting **7.05** Professor Bubble **7.30** Caillou **7.35** Bug Alert **7.55** Practical Parenting **8.00** Barney and Friends **8.25** Babaloos **8.30** Caillou **8.35** Tiny and Crew **8.50** Practical Parenting **9.00** Can't Cook Won't Cook **9.30** The Roseanne Show Highlights **10.00** The Jerry Springer Show **10.50** Maury Povich **11.40** Brookside **12.10pm** Animal Rescue **12.40** Rescue 911 **1.10** Special Babies **1.40** Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction **2.10** LA Law **3.10** Living Room **4.00** Michael Cole **4.50** Rolanda **5.40** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.15** The Jerry Springer Show **7.05** Rescue 911 **7.35** Animal Rescue **8.10** Maury Povich **9.00** FILM: **The Unspoken Truth (1995)** **11.30** Sex Life **12.00am** Close

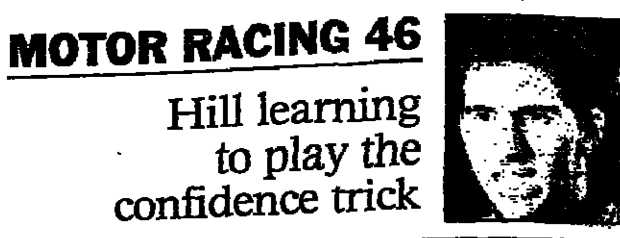
ZEE TV

5.00am Punjabi Folk Songs **5.30** Music Time **6.00** Aap Ki Farmaish **6.30** Usha Uthap Show **7.00** Faith **7.30** Daily News **8.00** Out and About **8.30** Sailaab **9.00** Himalaya's **10.00** Dhoop Mein Sawan **11.00** Khana Khazana **11.30** Parampara **12.00pm** FILM: **Punjabi Movie: Nachdi Jawani** **3.00** Zee Bangla **3.30** Cine Magic **4.00** Campus **4.30** Zee Top 10 **5.30** Aashirwad **6.00** Liberty 1-10 **6.30** Humm Tara Rum **7.00** Jee Sahab **7.30** Chalo Cinema **8.00** News **8.30** Daraar **9.00** Do Aur Do Paanch **9.30** Zanjeeren **10.00** Hadd Kar Di **10.30** X Zone **11.30** Yaadon Ke Rang **12.00am** News **12.30** Pakistan Business Week **1.00** Zee Bang Ia **1.30** Raahat **2.00** FILM: **Urdu Movie: Maa Baap** **4.30** Lolly-Pop



AMERICAN FOOTBALL 42
Elway's triumph overshadowed by Prophet's demise

SPORT


MOTOR RACING 46
Hill learning to play the confidence trick

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 2 1999

Uncertainty over coach's future turns spotlight on Lancaster Gate

FA weighs Hoddle options

Rob Hughes on the candidates who might come into England consideration

AS THE lamps burnt into extra time at the Football Association committee room at Lancaster Gate last night, and before Glenn Hoddle defends himself in front of them today, the exercise was being described as one of damage limitation. It is far more than that. When even the Prime Minister makes a qualified call for a football coach to go, then not only is the reputation of Glenn Hoddle at stake, but the leadership of the FA also depends upon it.

The senior members of the FA international committee, led by Geoff Thompson, a Yorkshire magistrate, were deliberating in effect not just Hoddle's immediate future but that of its own leadership. Thompson has to get this right. He is the acting chairman, he wishes to make the position permanent and only if the FA is correct in all that it does during this critical week will he achieve his aim.

It is difficult, to say the least. Not only have Thompson *et al* had just over one month to attempt to restore the propriety of England's name abroad after the enforced resignations of the chief executive and chairman, but now they are also aware of the moral outrage that Hoddle's words have caused well beyond the bounds of the football field.

Moreover, the committee has to decide who, if it is not Hoddle, will take charge of England for the match against France, the world champions, at Wembley next Wednesday and, even more important, the crucial European championship qualifying fixture against Poland on March 27.

Was there ever a chalice more poisoned, or a challenge more coveted, than that of the England job? Whatever Hoddle believes is invested in the past. It is the future that engages us now — and, presumptuous as it is bound to seem, like rummaging through someone's living room before they have departed, the question of the succession is inevitable. It will depend on three issues: timing, the limit of the FA's horizon and whether the England head coach is an appointment for the short or the long term.

ALLSPORT

Pleat, the former manager of Tottenham Hotspur, would be an appealing candidate should the Football Association need to replace Hoddle

On the face of it, there is a man inside Lancaster Gate ready and waiting to take at least temporary charge of the national team. Howard Wilkinson, "Sergeant Wilko" as his Leeds United players knew him, has a substantial C.V. He hails from Yorkshire, as does Thompson. He has been toughened by a family background in mining, he is educated through self-motivation to university standard. He is a philosophical man, who sometimes can lose an audience in his own deep and convoluted thoughts, but he lifted Leeds to the championship and, when he was dismissed, he left behind the youths who are now blossoming under David O'Leary, the present Leeds manager.

Maybe Wilkinson's time ran out at Elland Road, but he is now the FA's technical director and, possibly, a prophecy that was made over 20 years ago is about to happen. It was on a stormy Notts County training ground where Jimmy Sirrel, that cagey Scottish manager, introduced Wilkinson to me, declaring that he was an FA coach through and through and undoubtedly an England manager of the future.

There can be no quarrel with Wilkinson, who already guides the youth of this country up to under-21 level, being the stopgap if the emergency demands it. However, to lament that there are no alternatives is untrue. The hire-and-fire carousel of football management is such that there is an appreciable list of capable managers waiting by the telephone.

They include Terry Venables. He would be the players' man, the FA councillors' nightmare, but doubtless ready if ever Lancaster Gate offered him the job. There is also, on football's version of the dole, Roy Evans, late of Liverpool and described from within that club as "a lovely man, but still of the back room". There is Roy Hodgson, who would have been in contention had the Hoddle affair fallen six months ago, when his star was ascendant at Blackburn Rovers and when England's international committee was grooming him.

Hodgson succeeded with Switzerland beyond the sum of their parts, but at Internazionale, of Milan, and at Blackburn, the day-to-day demands exposed him, though players such as Tim Sherwood effectively got rid of their manager by failing to perform.

Also from Blackburn's recent past — and Liverpool's and Newcastle United's — Kenny Dalglish is available.

Hodgson: was in running

He may be a Scot, but from Busby to Shankly to Ferguson who can doubt that the Scots know how to arouse the Sassenachs? The English list of available candidates runs deep, with Dave Bassett, Frank Clark and, heaven help us, even Vinnie Jones willing to give it a go.

Another candidate, who doubtless could be persuaded, is David Pleat. He has the tactical nous, the ability to handle egos and the charm to cope with the mass media . . . and, without question, the character to appeal to men in the shadows of the committee.

Pleat long ago overcame the attempts to smear his personal reputation, after his first engagement with Tottenham Hotspur, and won more than half his games as manager at White Hart Lane, a ratio better than all the post-war managers, including Bill Nicholson, and better by far than Venables.


Wilkinson: substantial CV

What we can assume for sure is that Thompson, not only a man of the law but also an acting chairman who will attempt not to put one foot out of place, will not seek to lure away a club manager while he is in contract. Thus Alex Ferguson, Kevin Keegan and Arsène Wenger are off limits. And the long-term candidates, such as John Gregory or Bryan Robson, are similarly tied.

But must it be an Englishman? To coach the England team, much more than at club level, requires understanding the English temperament, coaching the English talents, playing to Anglo-Saxon strengths. Yet 22 of the 32 coaches at the World Cup finals last summer are on the market, including Berti Vogts and Carlos Alberto Parreira. Also not engaged is Johan Cruyff, quarrelsome and expensive, but vastly influential in the modern game and with a yearning to coach in England.

If not him, if none of the above, then as a last, audacious suggestion there is Aimé Jacquet. He guided France to the ultimate trophy in football, he now has a job preparing the next generation of French footballers; but how saucy it would be if Jacquet were persuaded, as a one-off, to prepare England against France at Wembley next week.

Hartson hit by penalty of £20,000

By Nick Szczepanik

JOHN HARTSON, the Wimbledon and Wales forward, has been fined £20,000 by the Football Association and suspended for three matches for his attack on Eyal Berkovic, his then team-mate, at West Ham United's Chadwell Heath training ground on September 27. Hartson admitted a charge of misconduct.

Although the incident took place at a private training session, Hartson was summoned before an FA disciplinary committee after video pictures of the incident, showing Hartson kicking Berkovic in the head, were shown on Sky Sports and still photographs taken from the video footage appeared in national newspapers.

"We regard the incident as clearly being within our jurisdiction because John was a professional footballer going about his duties and subject to our rules," Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, who had appealed for a "common sense" verdict but will now be without his record signing for three games from February 15, said: "I need some time to think about this. I didn't expect that."

"It is a very harsh punishment in my view," Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said. "I fined John £10,000, but now they have done this to him.

Berkovic forgave Hartson and sent a letter to yesterday's inquiry. The two even kissed and made up on camera some weeks ago, the Wales international grabbing his erstwhile victim and planting an extravagant smacker, as opposed to a smack, on the Israel midfield player. Nevertheless, the FA, although accepting that the two players had gone on to train and play together and that no grudges were held, clearly felt that the images had been so damaging that official censure was required.

"I was ashamed of what I did when I saw the pictures," Hartson said. "I have to control my aggression. This is something I must do."

Hartson has now equalled and set a record in the space of little more than a fortnight. The fine equals the previous record fine imposed by the FA and the fee Wimbledon paid for Hartson, a club record, could rise to £7.5 million depending on the number of appearances that Hartson makes — a number always likely to be limited by suspension, in view of his poor disciplinary record.

Hartson was suspended for the final matches of last season after a dismissal in a match against Derby County and his absence may have cost West Ham a place in the Uefa Cup, of which they fell short by one FA Carling Premiership place.

He earned his fifth yellow card of this season for a trip on Frank Lampard in the game against his former club at Selhurst Park on Saturday, a game that Berkovic missed because of influenza. Hartson has 14 days to appeal.


Hartson: heavily punished

The news will probably increase Wimbledon's resolve in advance of the FA Cup fourth-round replay tonight against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane, their fourth game against the same opponents in the past three weeks. Dean Blackwell, the central defender, and Andy Roberts, the midfield player, both of whom missed the West Ham game, are expected to return tonight. Carl Leaburn and Carl Cort stand by to replace Efan Ekoku, who injured a shoulder on Saturday, and Hartson, who is cup-tied.

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Royle funds, page 45

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1630

ACROSS
1 Next to; as well as (6)
4 Prolonged personal battle (4)
9 Instrument; soft *(mus.)* (5)
10 Rumour (7)
11 One boring (7)
12 Poison (5)
13 Non-manual (job) (5-6)
17 Dither *(Eng.)*; babble *(Scot.)* (5)
19 Magic-lamp panto (7)
22 A fish; ground chalk (7)
23 Brazilian dance (5)
24 Ploy, stratagem (4)
25 John Maynard —, economist (6)

DOWN
1 Two-legged creature (5)
2 Utterly unoriginal (7)
3 Slaver, fawn (over) (5)
5 County, its supposedly Thatcherite Man (5)
6 Forgetting lines: wiping (6)
7 Give too little value (5-6)
8 A crayon; a light shade (6)
14 Distended; pompous (6)
15 Insect's rear segment (7)
16 Bathroom appliance: some rain (6)
18 Blood vessels (5)
20 Gangway (5)
21 Approaches (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1629
ACROSS: 6 Bravado 7 Truro 9 Solid 10 Turn/out 11 Pearly Gates 14 Have kittens 17 Rollmop 19 Trace 21 Scout 22 Fend off
DOWN: 1 Wail 2 Hardback 3 Hostel 4 Star 5 Culottes 6 Busk 8 Obtuse 11 Pavilion 12 Greeting 13 Chorus 15 Typify 16 Deaf 18 Matt 20 Atom

Job destined to end in failure

The manager of the England team has all too frequently been a target for abuse, **Nick Szczepanik** says

The England manager's job? Do we not like that. Since its introduction in 1946, when Walter Winterbottom became the first man to hold the post, it has brought opprobrium and criticism in equal measure. Winterbottom, the longest-serving national manager of all, eventually relinquished the job after leading England to the quarter-finals of the 1962 World Cup.

Even Alf Ramsey, the only England manager to win the World Cup — in 1966 — paid a harsh price for relative failure. The 1-1 draw against Poland at Wembley in 1973 that ensured that England would not qualify for the 1974 World Cup finals meant that Ramsey, despite his achievements, was subsequently dismissed.

The departure of Don Revie was the most ignominious of all. In 1977, Revie had travelled secretly to Dubai to negotiate a lucrative contract to manage the United Arab Emirates instead of travelling with the England team on a tour of South America.

Suspended from English football for ten years by the Football Association, Revie had the ban overturned on appeal, but the judge at the hearing called his actions "a sensational example of disloyalty, breach of duty, discourtesy and selfishness".

Under Ron Greenwood, the former West Ham United manager, the national side qualified both for the 1980 European championships and the 1982 World Cup, but in neither competition did Greenwood's charges live up to expectations and the press was beginning to get a taste for the blood of England managers.

The media attacks began to approach the present level of vitriol during the reign of Bobby Robson. His early period as England manager was marred by indecision and failure to qualify for the 1984 European championships and, while his stoicism in the face of constant press criticism enabled him to reach the relative heights of the World Cup quarter-finals in 1986, his hair turned progressively whiter. Although his 1990 team, the best England side in recent memory, came within a penalty shoot-out of the World Cup final, there had been intense criticism of his selection and team formation in the early rounds of the tournament.

Taylor, left, and Revie, centre, suffered more than most, although Venables's reign was better received

Graham Taylor, who succeeded Robson after the 1990 finals, had to endure even greater abuse. Billed as a master of press relations, he will be remembered for a series of gaffes, most notably his advice to the nation that they should "put your feet up and watch us win it", before England failed to win a single match in the 1992 European championships. Worse was to follow, as Taylor ill-advisedly allowed a film crew to record his failure to reach the World Cup finals in 1994. "Can we not knock it?" and the immortal "Do I not like that" became his England epitaphs.

Terry Venables did better than most. Only another penalty shoot-out against Germany stood between his team and the final of the 1996 European championships, but question marks over his business dealings and the threat of legal action against him prevented his contract being extended. And that is where Glenn Hoddle came in . . .